



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Tom Kesselring, Senior Pastor
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"On Sunday, May 7, we will bid farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Rosy Rivera. Together we will give thanks to God for the gifts Pastor Rosy has shared with the Immanuel Lutheran Church family over the past four years. Pastor Rosy's energy, talents, and passion for ministry in service to our Lord and God's Church have blessed ILC members, the Pflugerville community, and

beyond.

On the evening of the first Easter day, Jesus appeared in the midst of his disciples and said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." The peace that Jesus gives is more than the absence of conflict. His peace comes from the person and presence of God the Holy Spirit. It is the very same gift that was bestowed upon Pastor Rosy when she was baptized. It is the very same gift that has been affirmed in her life countless times. It is the very same gift that set her apart for ministry by the laying on of hands the day she was ordained.

Saying goodbye is never easy, but in the same way that a Christian funeral is a celebration of the resurrection and new life, saying goodbye to a Christian pastor who is accepting a new call is a celebration of resurrection and new life for the sake of the Church at large. We will continue to pray for God's blessings upon Pastor Rosy and also upon the congregation she will now serve as a solo pastor, First Lutheran Church of Lorain, Ohio.

The peace of Christ is not the result of our personal strength. Neither is our peace dependent upon our intelligence, the depth of our faith, or our personality. Our peace comes from the presence and power and grace and love of Jesus. Once the disciples receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, Jesus sends them out. The peace of Christ is personal, but it is not self-serving, self-centered, or selfish. God the Father sent Jesus to proclaim God's love for all of human kind. Jesus blesses his disciples with his Spirit and sends us out to share the grace and love of God with others. Pastor Rosy, go in peace and serve the Lord, knowing that the Spirit of Immanuel goes with you!

Pastor Tom

Farewell Luncheon: Join us on Sunday, May 7th as we will say "Farewell and Godspeed" to Pastor Rosy with a luncheon immediately after the late service in the Parish Hall. Pork loin and chicken, prepared by the Holy Smokers, and side dishes will be provided. The congregation is asked to bring their favorite dessert to share.

Summer Worship Schedule: Beginning, Sunday, May 28th our Sunday morning worship schedule will change to two services, 8:45am and 11:30am. The two services will be identical each week except on the Sunday of the *Church Picnic. Here's an overview. Sundays in **BOLD** print will be in the Parish Hall; all other services will be in the church Sanctuary/Chapel.

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| May 28—Youth Musicians | June 4—Confirmation Sunday | June 11—Trinity Sunday |
| June 18—Gospel Sunday | *June 25—Annual Picnic/Polka Sunday | July 2—God & Country |
| July 9—Jazz Sunday | July 16—Martin Luther Hymns | July 23—Old Time Hymns |
| July 30—Camp Songs | Aug. 6—Handbells | Aug. 13—Kids Songs |
| Aug. 20—Martin Luther II | Aug. 27—Brian Markert Songs | Sept. 3—God's Work, Our Hands |

Tired and Retired had thirty-seven present in April. The Day School entertained with "He's So Good to Me", "Every Good Gift is from God", "Jesus Loves Me", and "I'm in the Lord's Army", they ended with a lively dance, the "Hokey Pokey". Pastor Rosy talked to us about her call, new congregation and church. We all wished her the best and thanked her for the ministry that she brought to Immanuel. She also shared some Easter trivia. The birthday prize went to Debbie Wiederhold and the others to Atlan Pfluger and Dot Rounsavill. The time was ended with a touching and beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace" sung by Pastor Rosy and Pastor Tom.

Please join us for another great potluck, on Wednesday, May 10th, at 11:30 a.m. when we will be honoring the following May birthdays: Mary Jo Beene, David Bloemker, Dean Bridges, Robert Bridges, Donna Cearley, Billy Clements, LaVerne Dancak, Sharon Erickson, Wallace Erickson, Carol Estes, Kelly Gorham, Larry Hodde, Douglas Huyett, Shirley Kaatz, Becky Koester, David Kotal, John Marsh, Mary Mayfield, Cynthia Mendl, Joy Peck, Ruth Pfennig, Victor Pfennig, Camille Pfluger, Patricia Reichenbach, Monroe Reinhardt, Emily Saathoff, Nancy Shedenhel, Margaret Vorwerk, H.L. Weiss, Joe Weiss, Joe Williamson.

Women
Of The
ELCA



Lutheran World Relief Ingathering: A great big thanks to all who participated in the LWR Ingathering at Immanuel and at Texas Lutheran University. Setting up by providing signs; putting out tables, chairs, cones; directing traffic; bringing water and getting the truck from U-Haul and so much more. Also, receiving the paperwork from the churches who brought the LWR boxes, loading all of those boxes on the truck and reworking boxes that needed repair.

What a wonderful ministry for five years in helping to provide quilts, school kits, personal care kits, baby care kits, fabric kits and soap to those who need these items around the world. Another thanks to congregational members who gave items to fill these kits and make quilts.

It was a special blessing this year, 2017, to fill not only the 26 ft. truck usually used but another trailer, 6 ft. X 12 ft. Thanks to those guys who drove the truck to the Ingathering at Texas Lutheran University where the boxes were placed on large trailers to be taken to the LWR warehouses in New Windsor, Maryland.

It was a wonderful way to complete this ministry of five years at Immanuel. We will continue to collect items for the kits and construct quilts to be transported to the new Ingathering site.

God bless all of you for serving God by serving people.

On April 18th our LWR kits were driven to TLU for shipment to either Minnesota or Maryland. From these two locations our kits will be sent to areas of greatest need.

Many hands made it possible for us to continue our mission of "Serving God by Serving People". Throughout the year our congregation was asked to contribute items or financial support to school kits, personal kits, and baby care kits. Quilters pieced quilt tops at home and met monthly to tack them. Several crocheted blankets/caps, cut/sewed diapers, cut/edged baby blankets, and hemmed tops/sleepers for the baby care kits. Some of us shopped/gathered the needed items, packed, labeled, weighed, and boxed them up for shipment.

On April 2nd our kits and quilts were displayed in the sanctuary, parish hall and chapel. They received a blessing at all three services. Because of your donations and contributions, Immanuel shipped 747 pounds of "care":

- ☐ 107 School Kits (321 lbs.)
 - ☐ 30 Personnel Care Kits (52 lbs.)
 - ☐ 55 Baby Care Kits (186 lbs.)
 - ☐ 113 Quilts (550 lbs.)
- 28 pounds of soap.

In addition, WELCA contributed \$573 to help ship these kits to those in need. What a wonderful way for our congregation to serve by providing individuals in the U.S. and around the world with truly "basic" supplies (a quilt for warmth, a bar of soap/toothbrush for cleanliness, a pen/pencil/paper for education, a receiving blanket/sleepers/diapers for a baby). Thank you for your support and contributions to this mission.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts Pastor Tom and to all our friends and family at Immanuel - who sent cards and called us on the phone (yes, we still use our phone). Most of all we thank everyone for your prayers before and after Billy's knee surgery. Our Lord has truly blessed us during the last few years - taking care of us with all our illness and surgery. We know he will continue to do so. We have been truly blessed and grateful because of all your prayers and kindness. Gods Blessings to all.

Billy and Janet Glenn

Many, many thanks to everyone who helped make the Walk to Calvary an inspiring community event. The snacks you provided encouraged people to stay and visit. Blessings certainly abounded. Thanks to God and you, the committed people of ILC. Let's do it again next year.

Annyce Bohls

Fellow Lutherans,

Thank you for the incredibly warm welcome in Pflugerville. It was such a treat not only to get to worship with you and meet you, but to get to know a part of the area beyond what most tourists experience. Thank you for letting me share my story and for joining my journey through your contributions and prayers. See ya'll next time I'm in Pflugerville.

**In Christ,
Mikah Meyer**

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

I know I wasn't supposed to write an article this month, but I just wanted to say my final "Thank you" to this congregation. I have made so many memories here that I will cherish forever. I have met some amazing people whose spirit I will carry with me wherever I go. I meant what I said in my letter of resignation about this congregation having some very talented individuals. It is my prayer that you continue to be a beacon of light within this community. As the only ELCA congregation in this community and with continued growth, I know there is still much work to do! I pray that I have helped to begin the process of "moving forward" through technology and more progressive thinking. While that doesn't appeal to everyone, whether we want to admit it or not, that is where the next generation is headed.

I want to especially thank the members of my mutual ministry committee who have walked with me through sooo many things: Amy Singer, Melissa Malinowski, Lois Luedtke and for a short time, Susan Murphy and Kelly Knobloch. These persons helped to mold me into a better pastor for this congregation through my own doubts and fears. I appreciated their honesty- even though I didn't always want to hear it! I am forever grateful for their unending love and devotion to nurturing my personal faith. These individuals modeled for me what true Mutual Ministry support looks like; my new Mutual Ministry will have big shoes to fill! They were always available with an "ear to listen and a heart to love" no matter what I was facing and I sincerely will miss them.

Personally, I feel I have grown into my pastoral identity while here, which now makes me confident of my new role as a solo Pastor. I am thankful, humbled and honored to have been here in Pflugerville and to serve as your associate these three and half years. I am honored to have been your first female pastor in the rich history of this congregation- and I pray I am not the last! There have been some growing pains along the way, but all in all, I pray that I have inspired the faith of many and stirred your spirits in a way that inspires you all to now step forward to help continue to lead and move this congregation forward. I want you all to know that I leave here stronger, more equipped both spiritually and mentally because of many of you. I will forever hold this congregation in great love and appreciation as my first call- the congregation who took a chance on a rookie pastor! Thank you just doesn't seem to be enough and so I'll end by saying, I hope to keep up with some of you on Facebook and I hope you know that it goes without saying that if you ever venture up to OH you would be most welcome to come worship at First Lutheran in Lorain, OH. May the God of our resurrected Savior and King continue to bless and keep you always! I will love and miss you all!

Always a servant of Christ,
Rev. Rosalina Rivera

Graduate Blessing and Recognition will be Sunday, May 28th - Please email the church office if you have a high school or college graduate. Please do not assume we have your information. Blessing and recognition will happen at both worship times.

Mini-Treasurer's Report:

General Fund

General Fund	
Balance 03/24/2017	\$ 11,911.18
Income 03/24-04/22	64,483.36
Expenses 03/24-04/22	- 55,099.67
Balance 04/22/2017	\$ 21,294.87

Loan Balance-Comerica	\$ 116,374.39
Loan Balance-First Texas Bank	200,000.00
Building Loan Account Balance 04/22/2017	\$ 36,525.56

Day School:

Balance 03/24/2017	\$ 55,108.43
Income 03/24-04/22	94,633.45
Expenses 03/24-04/22	- 101,507.34
Balance 04/22/2017	\$ 48,234.54

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

Immanuel is Hosting an Electronic Recycling Event through May 14th. Do you have an old laptop, desktop, monitor, television, tablet, cell phone, or any other electronic device that is no longer needed? Donate it here and the church will receive a monetary donation for the total pounds of items received. All proceeds will go towards the New Building Fund. **PLEASE NOTE THE SHEET OF WHAT CANNOT BE DONATED** (located near the bin in the lower narthex). ****All laptops/desktops and devices will be wiped of all data.****

2017 Immanuel Lutheran Church Golf Tournament - May 21st at Star Ranch. Visit www.ilcgolf.weebly.com for details and to register. The annual golf tournament continues to supply funds for the Luther Priem Bible Fund and the Collin Lovett Scholarship Fund. Register early for the best deal!!

The next meeting of the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will be on Saturday, May 13th at 9:00am in the lower narthex. Its time to get involved in that new crochet or knitting hobby to keep you busy in the air conditioning during those hot summer months. All people, skill levels and projects are welcome! Please consider joining us to crochet or knit prayer shawls, share patterns and skills, and enjoy fellowship together. For more information, please contact Bonnie Sassman at bsassy55@aol.com or 512-680-8094 or Elizabeth Arndt at earndt@gmail.com or 512-619-5572.

Youth Spring Cleaning Fundraiser: 1st - 5th grade youth are having a fundraiser and want you to get started on some spring cleaning! We are collecting household items and clothing till May 14th. Don't worry about how much or little you can donate, we will send some happy kids to pick it all up from you! **NOTHING** will be dropped off or stored at the church. Items not accepted, furniture, tvs, safety equipment (bike helmets or car seats), weapons. Contact Shannon Schulze @ 512-983-6727 or Stacy Mueller @ 512-924-8895.

"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	Austin W. Fox, 1st Lt. US Army
Beverly Wolff's Grandson	Betty Wicklund's Granddaughter	Wilfred & Jennave Fuchs' Grandson



From the Youth and Family Ministry Office...

I've shared in my IMAGE articles before about thoughts I have when doing my yardwork...perhaps some deep thinking happens then or it's just the oxygen deprivation happening in my brain giving me these "slightly insightful" moments.

The last month I've been rather proud of myself, I've stayed on top of our yard every two weeks and have successfully avoided the HOA love notes reminding us that according to item HC104.2.8 - ii.aa. it is our responsibility to keep our yard well maintained - as if I wasn't aware of all the weeds - thanks for spending my HOA dues well on the pieces of paper that go out to seemingly the whole neighborhood. I digress.

The month of April had my yard looking pretty good, but it amazes me that when I quickly go to and from the house and drive by the grass looks great. When cut, you can hardly see all the weeds that are in the yard. However, upon a slower pace of mowing and edging - it becomes apparent just how many weeds there actually are. I don't desire to have a nice thick, lush lawn - but, it got me thinking...

Could this perhaps be like my spiritual/faith life? Am I just blowing through my days, weeks, years and not really slowing down enough to really consider what's there/not there? If I were to stop and just take a slower pace would I see things I was unhappy with, surprised with? Would this launch me to be more determined about taking care of myself?

I am so thankful to be rooted in a community like Immanuel where I have opportunities and fellow Christians to be along this journey with. I am thankful that I am encouraged by colleagues to practice self-care and tend to my own spiritual needs through worship and study of Scripture.

There is always room for improvement and time to be reminded about the need for and benefit of slowing down; taking time to breathe, reflect and then act. Perhaps when we do this our collective whole will be healthier; our community and neighbors will benefit from the individual's health.

We can be certain that God continually grants us the grace, love and mercy that is sufficient for whatever comes along our path and our journey together that lays ahead. Take time this week, this month to slow down - appreciate the sunshine, fresh air and reflect upon your spiritual journey. Peace and love!

<>< **Live, serve and love boldly!**
Katie Wegner,
Director of Youth and Family Ministry

May - 2017
Youth and Family Ministry Calendar:

May 7th - ALL mission trip registration forms are due!!
Middle School: June 5-9, 2017, Arlington, TX
High School: June 25 - July 1, 2017, Colorado Springs, CO
Congregational: August 12-16, 2017, Galveston, TX

May 14 - No Youth Activities - Happy Mother's Day!

May 21 - ILC Golf Tournament
*Please contact Katie Wegner or Bob Lovett if you can volunteer!
12:00pm - Star Ranch

May 28 - Graduate Recognition and Blessing at both worship times
Please notify the church office if you are a graduating senior (high school or college)
Switch to Summer Worship Schedule - 8:45am/11:00am

Food Pantry News for March
Number of clients assisted—105
Number of Family Members—346
New clients included—4
Pastors Fund assists—7

Official Acts:
Baptism: 4/30—Jameson Scott Arnhamn
Death: 4/14—Millie Pauline Marshall

**EDUCATION
MINISTRY**



**MAY
2017**

So Long, Farewell, Au Revoir, Auf Wiedersehen, Adios, 再见. Good bye.....

We certainly read about "change" in every chapter of the Bible. Change for the better, change for the worse, repentant change (continual), change of scenery...and so forth. The month of May will hold changes for our church. On one hand we'll be saddened by the leaving of Pastor Rosy to her new call in Lorain, Ohio. We'll miss her smile and laughter, her servant heart, her passion to embrace change, her quest to learn more about our Risen King, her smile, her visitations, her book studies, her Pints & Proverbs discussions, her dog Sassy (or should that have been closer to the top of the list :-)...her love for us and for our Lord. Oh the other hand we will be excited for her new call and new congregation.

So Long, Farewell, Au Revoir, Auf Wiedersehen, Adios, 再见. Good Bye don't seem to be appropriate...Until our paths cross again here on earth or in heaven our prayers are with you Pastor Rosy. May our gracious King's overwhelming grace be with you now and always.

VBS and Tougher than Nails Volunteers

It's time to register for VBS/Tougher than Nails 2017. Here's the link. Either register as a VBS volunteer or a participant (each participant has to be registered separately).

<https://vbspro.events/p/ilcpville0217>

Tougher than Nails volunteers fill up quickly. We'd love for you to be flexible to help in other areas when we do.

Watch the bulletin for "prop needed items"...always, always can use donations to bring this program together!



ROBOT MANIACS

We are **STILL** looking for a few ROBOT MANIACS (lego type) to help with demos during VBS this year. If you have experience with this please let Susan Cox know (susan@ilcpville.org)

If you have experience, or supplies or actual robots that you are willing to share on one evening of VBS this year with our students we would greatly appreciate it!



Upcoming Dates:

May 21st	Teacher Appreciation—Last Day Sunday School for semester
June 19-22nd	Family Style VBS and Tougher than Nails
September 10th	Rally Day
October 25th	Trunk or Treat (and Spooktacular)
November 16th	Merry, Martha & Me
December 10th	Sunday School Christmas Program

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

Serving in May 2017

Acolytes

May 7: Sam Robar & Veronica King (7:45) Dominic Weber & Ethan Visness (11:00)
May 14: Elena Swenson & Allison Morris (7:45) Hudson Mueller & Joshua Priem (11:00)
Apr 21: MaKayla Leatherman & Rex Kuempel (7:45) Bryce Van Houten & Allison Thompson (11:00)
May 28: T.J. Odegaard & Cody Dubes (8:45) Julie Hodges & Marah Kluge (11:00)

Elders for May: Barbara Bohls (Early) Steven Dubes (Middle) David Gifford (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in May or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

Readers

May 7: Pastor Rosy (7:45, 8:30 & 11:00)
May 14: Candy Hansen (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)
May 21: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)
May 28: **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

May 7: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
May 14: Candy Hansen (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **2 needed** (11:00)
May 21: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
May 28: **2 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)

May Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley
Late Service: Lon Duke (7), Bruce Freudenberg (14), J.B. Marshall (23), **1 needed** (28)

Altar Guild

May 7 & 14	May 21 & 28
Kristin Adix & Courtney Emken	Cheri Murray, Dorothy Kraemer,

Ushers

May 7: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
May 14: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
May 21: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
May 28: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Children's Message:

May 7: Pastor Rosy (8:30 & 11:00)
May 14: Melissa Malinowski (8:30) Megan Freudenberg (11:00)
May 21: Mike Maluschka (8:30) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)
May 28: Jennifer Hoffman (8:45) Megan Freudenberg (11:00)

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

May 7: Charles Mott (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
May 14: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) Charles Kleen (11:00)
May 21: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
May 28: Vera Gebert (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)

Coffee Makers

May 7: Hal Kuempel
May 14: Mark Mueller
May 21: Kristin Adix
May 28: Lon Duke

Flower Calendar

May 7:
May 14:
May 21: Altar—P. Wolff
May 28: