



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

January 2018 Newsletter for
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Office 251-4494

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Happy New Year! The older I get, the more I appreciate an awareness of history. I imagine that's true for many of us. I appreciate the history of Immanuel Lutheran Church, the Pflugerville community, and our Lutheran heritage. If you are a young person, do you ask your parents and grandparents to tell you about the "old times?" It's important! If you are new to this church and community, I'd love to share my appreciation of this

place with you. Better yet, I would encourage you to seek out life-time ILC members and others in our church and community. Listen to their stories, and then share your story with them.

I also appreciate that in God's larger scheme, a thousand years really is like a day. It really was just a couple of days ago that God's son, Jesus, was laid in a manger, and Mary and Joseph were awed by an awareness of history. Thanks be to God, that guided by the Spirit, the story was told and retold and finally written down for all time. God has broken into human history and claimed the story as God's own.

God is still present and at work in human history. God is present and at work in the unfolding story of Immanuel Lutheran Church and the Pflugerville community, and God is present and at work in *your* story. God has broken into our lives and claimed our story as God's own. Here's a resolution for the New Year which I have shared before: resolve to tell your story! How has God acted in your life? You may have a "burning bush" experience to tell about, or God's "star" may have quietly and steadily led you to this point in time. Either way, your story needs to be told.

Let's resolve to share our stories with others and with one another in the coming year. In Christ, we are joined together now and forever. Telling our stories will bless us individually and strengthen the bond we share. And do you want to know the best part? Telling others how God has been present in your life is sharing the Gospel and doing the work of evangelism in a way that is easy and fun! May God bless our story telling in the New Year as we gather and worship, grow in the Word, and serve God by serving people.

Pastor Tom

Congregational Annual Meeting with Baked Potato Lunch is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th, 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 18th. 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.

Tired and Retired enjoyed our Christmas party with thirty-three present, great food, songs led by Pastor Tom and the Day School's selections of "Away in a Manger", "Jingle Bells", "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and "Rudolph". Thanks kiddos and leaders as we always look forward to your singing for us. The birthday prize was won by Barbara Bohls and the others went to Jean Pfluger and Annyce Bohls. Tired and Retired gave to two special projects this year - Pflugerville Pastor's Fund and The Salvation Army.

Please join us for the New Year on Wednesday, January 10, **2018**, at 11:30 am for another delicious potluck. A big thanks to all of you who come and make this event happen. In January we will be celebrating the following birthdays: Brenda Bubert, Clifford Damstrom, Bonnie Epperson, Lana Forgy, Deborah Fry, Jennave Fuchs, Guy Gebbia, Vera Gebert, Donna Getz, Rosie Gilbert, Karolyn Graf, Janelle Hebbe, Pam Hebbe, Albertine Hendrickson, Rita Hodde, Mildred Huebel, Donna Johnston, 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, Bryan Weiss, Gail Weiss, Norman Weiss, Virginia Weiss, Dorothy Williams, Darrell Winslett.

Women Of The ELCA

2018 WELCA Officers:

President: Dana Leary

Vice President: Brenda Bubert

Secretary: Becky Boyer

Treasurer: Deborah Reeder

Coordinators for Action/Justice: Vic Smith and Barbara Bohls

Coordinator for Community/Stewardship: Betty Wicklund

Coordinator for Growth/Discipleship: Susan Cox

This winter/spring our Bible study series is entitled: Multiple meanings: Learn from other interpretations. For January we will be discussing Mark 7: 1-12 -- Washing hands with distant hearts. There are 4 lessons in this series, but each lesson stands alone. Please join us. Our craft circle meets each Monday; and, our other circles meet the first Tuesday of the month. Check the bulletin or contact any officer for locations and times. Locations/times are also listed in the blue yearbooks on display in the lower narthex or by the office. If you are interested in being in a circle, but are not available on Tuesdays, please let the WELCA president know. If you are interested in a circle that would meet the first Sunday of each month during the middle service hour, please let the WELCA president know.

The Women of the ELCA ask 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 help price sales every Wednesday.) Two lightweight cotton t-shirts (onesies can be cut and hemmed to make a t-shirt) Two long or short sleeved gowns/sleepers without feet (top and pant sets/P.J.s 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 about \$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.

Altar Guild: All Altar Guild members should have received a packet in the mail pertaining to Altar Guild service. If not, please let Mary Jo Beene know. If anyone is interested in serving on Altar Guild, please give her a call at 512.801.6965. Thanks to all for your service.

Mini-Treasurer's Report:

General Fund	
Balance 11/19/2017	\$ 16,408.80
Income 11/20-12/16	56,995.40
Expenses 11/20-12/16	- 45,723.08
Balance 12/16/2017	<u>\$ 27,681.12</u>
Loan Balance - Comerica Bank	\$ 0.00
Loan Balance - First Texas Bank	200,000.00
Balance Building Loan Account	\$ 58,726.81
Day School:	
Balance 11/19/2017	\$ 55,460.73
Income 11/20-12/16	78,098.80
Expenses 11/20-12/16	- 104,488.59
Balance 12/16/2017	<u>\$ 29,070.94</u>

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

Annual Reports are due as soon as possible in December, BUT no later than Thursday, January 4th. Email your information to sherri@ilcpville.org.

2018 Offering Envelopes are available in the 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.

Food Pantry News for November

Number of clients assisted—116
 Number of Family Members—387
 New clients included—7
 Pastors Fund assists—N/A

Official Acts:

Deaths: 11/28—Marian Cearley
 11/30—William Drum

"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

The Marshes thank our Immanuel family for their heartfelt expressions of sympathy upon the passing of our father and grandfather, **John Marsh**. Your sincere condolences once more reveal the love and concern of our congregation for each other, and your memorials made in his name honor both John and our family. We are blessed to be members of this church family.

Thank you to all the carolers who stopped by my home to sing Christmas Carols to me. It was so sweet and thoughtful of everyone. Merry Christmas to all!! **Elois Sakewitz**

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.

The 13th Annual Austin and Central Texas Senior Fest will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2018 from 8:30am—4:00pm at Christ Lutheran Church, 510 Luther Drive, Georgetown. The theme will be "Being a Christian in 2018" with keynote speaker the Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick. Registration brochures are available on the bulletin board outside the office. The cost for the event will be \$25. \$30 after January 28, 2017.

As we approach the end of 2017 during the Advent season our thoughts turn to the birth of Jesus. We also frequently take inventory of our lives. An accounting of how we have spent our time, talent and monetary assets. We generally like to see things accomplished so we can check items off our to-do-list. Immanuel Lutheran Church is a generous church. Our congregation gives freely in our community and to Lutheran global ministries. As you look for ways to close out 2017, you may want to consider helping complete a project, the Lower Narthex Rejuvenation, begun in March 2017. As of December 11 donations to this project have reached \$3818. We can complete this project with your help. How can you be part of this project? You can donate a fan at \$40.00, a bar height table at \$118.00, a chair at \$90.00 each, or any amount toward the six solar roller shades or the new floor. This is an opportunity for you to be part of a worthwhile project and help us greet 2018 with a meeting room/ important fellowship area that will be refreshed and inviting to members and guests.

The Stewardship Committee The Pflugerville Pastors Fund following the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service resumed providing financial assistance December 4th, so we say thanks to the members of Immanuel who made extensive contributions to the fund. Thank you also to the Day School for a tremendous over the top food drive for non-perishable items, to the Pflugerville Independent School District food service for a great food drive and a special thanks to the Low Riders. Pastor Tom made reference to the circumstances in his sermon of December 10. Several years ago your Food Pantry provided a single mother with two young sons assistance. This mother and her with now grown sons collected food for the Food Pantry through the efforts of the Low Riders. The Food Pantry has over the 14 plus years of operation experienced similar responses on the part of those who have received assistance.

EDUCATION MINISTRY

January 2018

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

Who has heard of the Byrd's? Anyone remember (now I'm showing my age) the song, Turn, Turn, Turn by Pete Seger? He wrote it (well, only a couple of lines as most of the song comes from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8.) Pete added "I swear it's not too late" at the end. I wonder if there is something I have been putting off doing? How about you? Is 2018 a time for change? Would you like to see anything new offered in Sunday School? How about Bible Studies. What type of program would knock your socks off and beg for your attendance? Let me know. Let's, together, make it happen!

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

"I swear it's not too late".

Secret Prayer Sisters... Would you like knowing that someone in particular was praying for you regularly? Would you like to pray for another sister in Christ on a regular basis? Please join us on Saturday, January 27th at 9:30a in the Lower Narthex. We'll celebrate with our 2017 sisters as well as get paired up for 2018 with one. We'd love to have you. This past year we had 29 prayer warriors..let's add more this year! Please bring a brunch item with you to share with others.

Thank you SO much to all the students (live nativity and singers), puppeteers, teachers, parents & family, Jackie & Janet for singing the hymn, Sunday School band lead by Pastor Tom, Parish Ed and everyone in attendance. Our Sunday School Program bringing "From Heaven Above", a hymn by Martin Luther, to life. The 80 bags for the homeless were distributed to Casa Marianella for refugees and immigrants without homes (Austin) and The Foundation for the Homeless (Austin). **Thank you** to all who contributed to this service project.

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 Mon, Jan 8th.

Upcoming Dates:

Monday, January 15th—New afternoon Bible Study 4:30p

Saturday, January 27th—Secret Prayer Sister Brunch at 9:30a

March 11th no Sunday School due to start of Spring Break.

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 for more information

Serving in January 2018

Acolytes

Jan 7: Landon Self & Kyle Ward (7:45) Madison & Sam Puryear (11:00)
Jan 14: Taryn Bittick & Connor Herring (7:45) Ethan Visness & Shelby Weaver (11:00)
Jan 21: Bryce & Kadie Van Houten (7:45) Dominic Weber & Allison Morris (11:00)
Jan 28: Haidyn Damstrom & Reese Krause (7:45) Marah Kluge & Alyssa Motloch (11:00)

Elders for January: Barbara Bohls (Early) Kelly Knobloch (Middle) Steve 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 7: Barbara Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 14: Candy Hansen (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 21: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 28: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

Jan 7: Barbara Bohls (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **2 needed** (11:00)
Jan 14: Candy Hansen (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **3 needed** (11:00)
Jan 21: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 28: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)

January Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley
Late Service: **1 needed** (7) Bruce Freudenberg (14) J.B. Marshall (21) **1 needed** (28)

Altar Guild

Jan 7 & 14
Beverly Wolff, Elizabeth Arndt, Lonna Duncan

Jan 21 & 28
Grace Lin & Mary Jo Beene

Ushers

Jan 7: James & Barbara Bohls, **2 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 14: James & Barbara Bohls, **2 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 21: James & Barbara Bohls, **2 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 28: James & Barbara Bohls, **2 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Children's Message:

Jan 7: Mike Maluschka (8:45) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)
Jan 14: Puppets (8:45) Rebecca Dittmar (11:00)
Jan 21: Jennifer Hoffman (8:45) Melissa Malinowski (11:00)
Jan 28: Katie Wegner (8:45) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

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

Coffee Makers

Jan 7: Hal Kuempel
Jan 14: Mark Mueller
Jan 21: Kristin Adix
Jan 28: Hal Kuempel

Flower Calendar

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