



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Tom Kesselring, Senior Pastor
Katie Wegner, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
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The season of Lent begins early this year. Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day, February 14. I love our Lenten traditions at Immanuel and look forward to this special time in our life together again this year. There will be two worship opportunities each Wednesday in Lent, at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel, and at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. Soup and sandwiches will be served beginning at 5:15 p.m. each Wednesday beginning February 21.

We begin the spiritual disciplines of Lent with the imposition of ashes, hearing the words of Genesis 3:19, "you are dust and to dust you shall return." We turn our eyes toward the cross and the promise of the resurrection. God does not will for us to die. God wills that we turn from our sinfulness and live.

The theme of our Lenten meditations this year will be "Thy Will Be Done." Jesus prayed to his Father the night before he died on the cross, "Not as I will, but as you will." That is our prayer, too, as we seek to do God's will in our lives and draw near to the observance of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection during Holy Week. Each week, biblical characters will guide us in following our Lord more nearly day by day. Here are the weekly themes and the cast of characters:

Week 1, "God's Will and My Inadequacy: Moses." At first, Moses did not think he could free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, but God gave him the confidence he needed. In Lent we remember that God sent his Son to set us free from our slavery to sin.

Week 2, "God's Will and My Dreams: Nathan." Anointed by God to rule in Judah, King David often failed to do God's will. The Prophet Nathan reminds him of God's dream for David to shepherd God's people. We welcome the Good Shepherd who fulfills God's dream for our lives.

Week 3, "God's Will and my Identity: Mary." In humility, Mary dutifully accepted the role God gave her to become the mother of our Savior. Jesus accepted his role, faithfully following the path his Father had in mind for him to save us all.

Week 4, "God's Will and My Worldview: Paul." On the road to Damascus, Paul had his worldview turned upside down. We follow God's will by putting the crucified Christ at the center of our worldview.

Week 5, "God's Will and My Response: Lydia." Lydia responded with faith and hospitality when the Gospel message was preached to her. We follow the will of God by responding in love and service to one another in return for what Christ has done for us.

At both the 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. services, worship will begin with a hymn-sing, followed by Confession and Absolution and the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy. During the singing, you may light a candle or tie a prayer ribbon to the cross. Bring your family and invite your friends and neighbors.

Pastor Tom

Tired and Retired had twenty-four present to welcome in the new year in January. The birthday prize was won by Carlton Lorfing and the other two by Otto Werchan and Dorothy Kraemer. Thanks to the Day School for singing "Jesus Loves Me", "I'm in the Lord's Army", " and "Zacchaeus" . They also gave us a big shout out of "Happy New Year". We certainly enjoy your songs. After Pastor Tom addressed the group, James Bohls gave us a reading of "Shoes In Church".

Please join us on Wednesday, February 14th, at 11:30am for another potluck. This is also Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday. We will be celebrating the following February birthdays: Bob Avant, Joann Damstrom, George Davis, Billy Glenn, Scott Hickman, Eldon Johnson, Renee Kesselring, Mike Klepac, Gloria Kuempel, Diane Markert, Lauren Moede, Susan Moellenberg, Jeanette Renken, Carol Smithe, Elenora Stark, Deborah Stover, Robert Tanner, Linda Volek, Betty Wolf.

Women Of The ELCA

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.

For February our Bible Study continues in the theme of "Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations" with Luke 3:3-17 as our basis. We are learning that there is more than one way to interpret a scripture passage. Our four circles meet as follows: Craft circle at 9:00 a.m. the first Monday of the month, at C. Hansen's studio; Elizabeth, at 2pm the first Tuesday of the month, in the narthex; Mary, at 7pm the first Tuesday of the month, in members' houses; and, Rebecca, at 6:30pm the first Tuesday of the month, in the narthex. Please join us. Gather magazines are available outside Sherri's office for individual study.

Capitol North/Capitol South WELCA conference: Our theme is "All Anew" on March 3rd at Gethsemane church. We will have workshops on Mentoring and Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls. Lunch is included. If you would like assistance with the \$12 registration fee, contact Dana Leary. Registration forms will be available in the WELCA room.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will hold its next meeting at 9:00am on Saturday, February 10th, in the lower narthex. All are welcome to as we knit/crochet comfort for others and enjoy each other's company. Contact Bonnie Sassman at bsassy55@aol.com or Elizabeth Arndt at earndt@gmail.com for more information.

Ash Wednesday is February 14th and begins the season of Lent. Holy Communion services with the imposition of ashes will be offered at 10:00am in the Chapel and at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Our Wednesday mid-week Lenten services will follow the same schedule the next five weeks with soup and sandwiches served in the Parish Hall beginning at 5:15 p.m. (note, no dinner will be served Ash Wednesday).

Mini-Treasurer's Report:

General Fund	
Balance 12/17/2017	\$ 27,681.12
Income 12/17-01/20	60,319.39
Expenses 12/17-01/20	- 52,799.11
Balance 01/20/2018	<u>\$ 35,201.40</u>

Loan Balance First Texas Bank	\$ 200,000.00
Building Loan Account	94,343.59
Building Maintenance Account	30,561.19

Day School:

Balance 12/17/2017	\$ 29,070.94
Income 12/17-01/20	101,007.85
Expenses 12/17-01/20	- 77,710.89
Balance 01/20/2018	<u>\$ 52,367.90</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

Spring Fundraiser 2018: Come to the Annual Spring Student Ministry Fundraiser right here at Immanuel on **Saturday, February 17**. A fajita meal will be provided (thank you Holy Smokers!) as well as a supervised play area for all kids 5th grade and under. As always there will be a number of exciting items in the silent and live auctions and a couple of bonus chances to win prizes. The raffle prize is a \$500 Southwest Airlines Gift Card and the winner will be drawn (need not be present to win) that night! Back by popular demand - Chicken Poop BINGO!! Doors open at 5:30 and meal will be served at 6:00. Thank you for supporting the youth ministry at ILC!!

The Technology Committee spent their Christmas vacation installing a new WiFi network! There were 8 access points installed throughout the campus along with another switch. This should significantly reduce dead spots & provide a seamless transition for mobile devices as they move across campus. To join the network with your device, choose: **Network: ILC_Pville-Guest—Password : ilc-1874**
Kudos to Ralph Kirkley & Martin Jakubowski for installing & configuring the new network.

Official Acts:

Baptisms: 12/24—Layla Ruth Ramos
Liv Ryan Ramos
1/7—Gabrielle Eleni Torres
Adara Danielle Torres
Deaths: 1/10—Jennave Fuchs
Affirmations: 1/7—John & Luanne Gytri
Michael Laakso

Food Pantry News for December
Number of clients assisted—65
Number of Family Members—203
New clients included—1
Pastors Fund assists—N/A

"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 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	

The Family of Charles Kuempel is sincerely grateful for all your kind and loving expressions of sympathy. Your gifts of love through memorials, visits, food and other kind deeds were greatly appreciated. *"God is our refuge and strength, our ever-present help in time of need."* Psalm 46:1

Thank you for your donation to Senior Access during the fourth quarter of 2017. Your support and generosity is deeply appreciated.

Serita Lacasse
Executive Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you all are doing well. I get the warmest sentiments when thinking of you all. In a way I never anticipated.

When I first came to Immanuel, I did not know what to think. Yet, after all these years and your continued support for my ministry, I am still without words and ideas to frame how I feel about you all, other than love.

Everything is going well in spite of the magnitude of my goals set so many years ago. And even better, thanks to all your generous support.

Thank you so much for your help and dedication towards the sharing of the Good News of who Jesus is in our continued commission.

Thank you for believing in me and the Love of Christ that lives in me. I pray you receive great joy and blessing according to God's promises to those who are charitable. I hope to see you again before I go. Blessing to all. Keep up the good fight!

Your Brother Always,
Aaron Farrow

The Stewardship Committee: The results of the 2017 pledge card use was discussed. While the number of pledge cards turned in was low with respect to total membership the committee felt it was encouraging given the results from past efforts to use pledge cards. A discussion followed concerning the 2018 fall program as to continued use of the pledge card limiting its use again to the General Fund and should some degree of follow up be implemented to provide membership status of participation. The 2018 program will include a concerted effort stressing the need to address the level of summer giving and enrollment in the several ways available for online giving.

1st Communion Class - Any 4th or 5th grader (or beyond) that would like to participate are invited to do so. If you have a younger than 4th grader and would like to consider participating, please talk to Katie. Classes will meet Feb 21st; 28th; Mar. 7th & 21st from 5:45-6:25pm before Lenten Worship. 1st Communion will take place during Maundy Thursday Worship at 6:30pm. Please RSVP to Katie if you or your young person plan to attend.

EDUCATION MINISTRY

February 2018

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

Dictionary.com offers the following definition for "volunteer"

(Vol-uh n-teer) Noun. 1. A person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking.

ILC is filled with faithful and giving volunteers. We are all so grateful for all of you who do. In 2017 we had many opportunities to serve. Particularly in Education Ministry there are 6 major options: Sunday School Volunteer (teachers, puppets, song leaders), VBS, Tougher than Nails, Trunk or Treat, Merry, Martha & Me, and the Sunday School Christmas Program. All in all to adequately present each of these programs we have a bare minimum number of volunteers needed and several of these programs fell short. Here's a look at what we need versus what we had in 2017:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Minimum volunteers needed</u>	<u>Volunteers we had</u>
Sunday School	32	32
VBS & TTN	83-90	47
Trunk or Treat	25 cars	16 cars
Merry, Martha & Me	25 tables	17 tables

Over the course of the next several months we'll have several "Temple Talks" to let you know our volunteer needs in Parish Ed. We hope that we can enlighten you on what is required and will pray that you can help us make these programs all that they can be with your participation.

Please do me a favor and pray about where you can best serve at Immanuel in 2018 and please be open to countless opportunities not only in Parish Ed, but other ministries as well.

Questions about where to serve? Please ask any one of the church staff or council members and we'll help to guide you. Thanks so much!

Sunday School Attendance: Weekly church attendance is declining. More and more people and families have other obligations on Sunday' than ever before. With the declining attendance comes a decline in Sunday School attendance. What programs can Parish Education offer that will encourage your family's attendance in one of our many classes on Sunday mornings? We are here to serve you. Please let me know how we can best serve you and your family.

susan@ilcpville.org 512/567-0924 or 512/251-4494

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 our group by filling out a form (on Susan's bulletin board or by Ms. Sherri's office) and returning to Susan by the 1st weekend in February. We have a fabulous number of prayer warriors and hope you join us.

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 Feb. 5th.

Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, February 5th—"Beautiful Feet" Bible Study 4:00pm
- Monday, February 5th—Parish Ed Committee Meeting
- 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 February 2018

Acolytes

Feb 4: Catherine & Jacqueline Kruse (7:45) Rex Kuempel & Ava Owens (11:00)
Feb 11: Elliot Weiss & Emerson Perisho (7:45) Connor Herring & Taryn Bittick (11:00)
Feb 14: **(Ash Wednesday)** Reese Krause & Haidyn Damstrom (6:30)
Feb 18: Alyssa Motloch & Marah Kluge (7:45) Jacqueline & Catherine Kruse (11:00)
Feb 21: **(Lent)** Ava Owen & Rex Kuempel (6:30)
Feb 25: Emerson Perisho & Allison Morris (7:45) Stella Rachui & Hudson Mueller (11:00)
Feb 28: **(Lent)** Tate Reiland & T.J. Odegaard (6:30)

Elders for February: Marie Davis (Early) Steve Barczy (Middle) David Gifford (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in February or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

Readers

Feb 4: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Feb 11: Candy Hansen (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Feb 18: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Feb 25: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

Feb 4: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Feb 11: Candy Hansen (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **3 needed** (11:00)
Feb 14: **(Ash Wednesday)** **2 needed** (6:30)
Feb 18: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Feb 25: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)

February Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley
Late Service: **1 needed** (4) Bruce Freudenberg (11) J.B. Marshall (18) **1 needed** (25)

Altar Guild

Feb 4 & 11	Feb 14 (Ash Wednesday)	Feb 18 & 25
Bonnie & Mark Sassman	Betty Reinhardt, Shelley	Sharion Tanner, Trilba Eschberger
Kirsten Tindall	Priem, Courtney Emken	Jan Selman

Ushers

Feb 4: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Feb 11: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Feb 14: **(Ash Wednesday)** **4 needed** (6:30)
Feb 18: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Feb: 21: **(Lent)** Barbara Bohls, **3 needed** (6:30)
Feb 25: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Feb 28: **(Lent)** **4 needed** (6:30)

Children's Message:

Feb 4: Mike Maluschka (8:45) Rebecca Dittmar (11:00)
Feb 11: Melissa Malinowski (8:45) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)
Feb 18: Puppets (8:45) Rebecca Dittmar (11:00)
Feb 25: Katie Wegner (8:45 & 11:00)

Coffee Maker for February: Mark Mueller

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

Feb 4: Charles Mott (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
Feb 11: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)
Feb 14: **(Ash Wednesday)** Vera Gebert (6:30)
Feb 18: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
Feb 21: **(Lent)** David Gifford (6:30)
Feb 25: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)
Feb 28: **(Lent)** Matthew Krieg (6:30)

Flower Calendar

Feb 4:
Feb 11:
Feb 18:
Feb 25: