



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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I recently came across and read again an article I saved years ago. *Column* magazine asked noted Lutheran theologian and historian Martin Marty: "What is the greatest hope for organized religion to thrive, not just survive, in the years ahead?" Marty's response: "A re-involvement with the story of the prophets and Jesus. We must settle neither for individualized self-congratulating spirituality or routinized piety."

Simply stated, in order for the church to thrive, Christian people must be involved in worship and Bible study. No one can force us to make God's word a regular part of our lives. Consequently, churches like ours sometimes leave the impression that worship and Bible study are optional for church members. They are not, if we are to "thrive, not just survive."

Why do so few of us attend church regularly? Why are so few involved in Bible study groups and Sunday School? Perhaps we come to be stimulated and entertained and to feel better about ourselves and find that church and Sunday School just don't fulfill our needs. The music does not suit our individual taste; the worship and teachers do not excite us. Perhaps what we really seek is "individualized self-congratulating spirituality." We would prefer to focus on ourselves and what we like and what we can do and how we feel. Lutheran worship which focuses on what God has done seems irrelevant and out of touch with contemporary religious trends in a society which entertains us better than ever before.

That may sound like a harsh critique, but neither should worship and Bible study be merely "routinized piety." Simply going through the motions and coming to church to participate in routine rituals and recite memorized words doesn't feed our souls any more than do raised hands, tingly goose bumps and ecstatic tears prompted by state-of-the-art music performers displayed on giant screens by engineers at massive digital sound boards.

The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." Our Sunday morning "work" is intended to prompt "a re-involvement with the story of the prophets and Jesus" so that, by the grace of God and power of the Holy Spirit, God's word becomes meaningful and central in our whole lives. God the Holy Spirit gives us insight for living in relationship with God and one another through involvement in God's word. That's a promise! The Lord assures us through the prophet Isaiah, "My word ...shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:11)

Worship and Bible study. Your life and the life of Immanuel Lutheran Church will thrive on it. Together, let's pray, invite, and encourage more of us to regularly participate in worship and Bible study. The coming holiday season is a great time to begin!

Pastor Tom

Mark Your Calendars—November 18th will be our annual Community Thanksgiving Service! This year it will be hosted by Pflugerville Community Church. The offering will go towards the Pflugerville Pastor's fund. Hope to see you all there!

Tired and Retired met in October with 25 present. We enjoyed Pastor Tom leading the Day School children in singing "Jesus Loves Me", "I'm in the Lord's Army", "Pumpkin Patch", and "Five Little Pumpkins." We also learned that Immanuel's Day School has 198 children currently enrolled. Several people wore Halloween shirts and Becky Boyer told a few Halloween jokes. The birthday door prize was won by Donna Winkley and the other door prizes went to Verline Berkman and Ruth Pfennig.

Please join us on Wednesday, November 14th, at 11:30 a.m. for another potluck lunch as we celebrate all that we are thankful for this year. The November birthday honorees are: Maria Appelhans, Lynette Borgfeld, Larry Bradley, Denise Dearing, ElNora Estes, LaDell Freudenberg, Angeline Fritsch, James Hall, Michael Hansen, Bertha Hill, Raymond Kaatz, Andy Koester, John Mecey, Camille Miller, Vernagene Mott, Bob Nicholas, Stanley Pfeil, Doris Preusse, Wilford Preusse, Wayne Raney, Jeffrey Reeb, Mickey Reichenbach, Harry Richter, Fred Scott, Frank Simon, Lorene Smith, Faye Steger, Kay Weiss, Marilyn Weiss, Olivia Williamson.

Women Of The ELCA

Lutheran World Relief: In November and December WELCA is collecting soap to help cleanse and heal bodies around the world. Each Baby Care Kit and Personal Care Kit requires 8 to 9 oz. of soap (usually 2 or 3 bars of soap per kit.) For the Baby Care Kits, we need Ivory. Please consider donating several bars of soap (in original packaging).

WELCA: Thankoffering Day - Nov 18th. Each year ILC honors the work of the Women of the ELCA's national organization. As per the Thankoffering website, your generous offerings help support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization, including our triennial conventions, the work of your elected churchwide board, the annual conference of synodical presidents, our communications ministries, justice and advocacy work, and more.

On November 18th, we will provide Thankoffering envelopes for those who wish to contribute to the national organization. For more information, contact Dana Leary or check the Thankoffering website or WELCA website.

WELCA Yearbook - We are in the process of updating the yearbook and would like to know if you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain. This is open to all members of Immanuel. Also, if there are any new phone numbers please let me know. I would like your cell numbers as well as land line if you desire for them to be in the book. Janelle Hebbe, 512-251-4007 or janelle@sbcglobal.net.

QUILTERS: For November, the Quilters will meet on Wednesday, November 7th in the Narthex at 8:30am.

Women of Immanuel's Annual Pfall Pfest Bake Sale is Saturday November 17th at the Pflugerville Rec Center from 8:30am—4:00pm. This is our only fundraiser for the year. Please turn on your ovens and bake for us. Funds raised go toward funeral meals and LWR projects. Bring your home made goodies to the church office by 4pm on Friday November 16th or to the Rec Center on Saturday November 17th. If you prefer, we would be glad to accept "no-bake" donations. Questions: call Brenda Bubert at 512-832-1006 or email brendaestell@gmail.com. THANK YOU so very much from all your WELCA sisters in Christ.

From Your Church Council

Council met on October 16th for our regular monthly meeting. We reviewed written reports from Pastor Tom, Treasurer Kenneth Adix, and other staff and committees. These reports are on file in the church office, and are available for review.

Bob Tanner presented a draft summary of the Long Term Plan on which the LRP Committee has been working very hard. More details about the plan will be released as we near our Annual Meeting in January.

We were very happy to welcome Melissa Parry to her first Council meeting in her capacity as Director of Education Ministry. We hope this was the first of very many.

By the time you read this, Susan and Rick Cox will have left ILC, but as I write it, they'll still be here for another ten days. I know that I speak for the Council when I say that both Susan and Rick have meant so much to ILC. Susan has touched all of our lives, both as Director of Education Ministry, where her wonderful work has been highly visible and impactful; and behind the scenes where she helped plan and prepare meals, and cleaned up messes that most of us never knew about so that our worship and learning experiences would be seamless. Rick's contributions have been more behind the scenes, but the results have been front and center every Sunday. Rick ran the sound booth for services in the Parish Hall, and prepared and controlled the service elements that were projected on the screen. We'll miss Susan and Rick very much, and pray that God will continue to bless them in whatever ministry they tackle next.

I close by repeating my invitation to attend committee and Council meetings each month. The meeting times and places for several committees are listed below. If you're interested in a group or committee that isn't listed, please contact the church office and you will be put in touch with a member of that group or committee.

Long Range Planning - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., Lower Narthex

Day School - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., Conference Room

Stewardship - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., Lower Narthex

Worship and Music - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m., Parlor

Parish Education - 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Parlor

Congregation Council - 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., Conference Room

Yours in Christ,
Chris Rankin
Council President

Luminary: A Christmas Journey: Immanuel's annual Christmas Luminary is quickly approaching. This year's event will be December 8 & 9 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... Be watching for sign-up sheets in November.

The Historical Committee is cleaning out some old DVDs which contain worship services from 2010 through December 2015. There will be a list of those services, by date with a short note of the contents, posted in the Narthex. If you would like a copy of any particular service, please contact Carlton Lorfing at cplorfing@gmail.com or see him after the early service nearly every Sunday.

Mini Treasurer's Report:	
General Fund	
Balance 9/22/18	\$ 24,599.92
Income 9/23/18 - 10/22/18	\$ 52,476.47
Expenses 9/23/18 - 10/22/18	\$ (50,781.04)
Balance 10/22/18	\$ 26,295.35
Building Fund Balance 10/22/18	\$ 141,178.35
Day School:	
Balance 9/22/18	\$ 71,948.74
Income 9/23/18 - 10/22/18	\$ 118,009.64
Expenses 9/23/18 - 10/22/18	\$(104,893.76)
Balance 10/22/18	\$ 85,064.62

Anyone who wishes to make a contribution to the church in memory or honor of a loved one, may choose from the following funds:
 Garden of Prayer/Labyrinth Fund
 Cemetery Endowment Fund
 Pre-Theological Fund
 Technology Fund
 Cemetery Fund
 Food Pantry

Official Acts:

Marriages: 10/20—Dana Newberg & Chase Cain
 10/27—Sara Nimitz & David Mowry

"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
Kelsey Westman, 2nd Lt. US Army Reserves Betty Wicklund's Granddaughter		

The Stewardship Committee is using pledge cards this year in support of the 2019 General Fund Budget development. Your pledge will cover **only** the General Fund & you are encouraged to continue your giving to programs & ministries of ILC in addition. **If you have not turned in your pledge card, PLEASE do so as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card, please pick up one from the office.**

As part of the Committee 2019 budget discussion it was agreed to schedule three events during 2019 as part of the Stewardship program for 2019. The first would in March with a subject Congregational Stewardship, the second in June with a subject dealing with the pastor call process and in September pledge card, Commitment Sunday and the budget for 2020.

Food Pantry News for September

Number of clients assisted—95
 Number of Family Members—312
 New clients included—
 Pastors Fund assists—

EDUCATION MINISTRY

November 2018

I am thrilled to be Immanuel's new Director of Educational Ministry and joining the staff of Immanuel Lutheran Church! Thank you for all the warm welcomes! For those of you who may not have met me yet, please stop and introduce yourself! I am a lifelong active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and have been very active in volunteering as a Sunday School Teacher, Song Leader for the children's Sunday School Opening, and VBS for the past 6 years. I am married to Rhinard Parry and we have two children, Mia (3rd grade) and Ryan (1st grade).

We offer Sunday School to children age 2—Adult at 9:45am on Sundays! We would love to see more attendance each week! We all have great fun each week learning about God's Word. The middle and high school have a new curriculum this year and have breakfast together each week at the beginning of class! There are three Adult Classes to attend as well! If you have not attended a class recently, please stop by and see the new things happening in our classes! Bring along a friend and introduce them to our family here at Immanuel.

Our next big event is the Sunday School Christmas Program during the Middle (contemporary) Service at 8:45am on Sunday, December 9th in the Parish Hall. All children age 2—Adult are invited to the service! We will have the children sing traditional Christmas songs and present the Christmas Story. If you play an instrument, including adults, please get your instruments ready and be a member in Pastor Tom's band! The bigger the band, the more magnificent the sound will be! We ask that the congregation bring a plate of cookies to share after the service.

I'm excited to be leading Immanuel in gathering in educational ministry, grow in God's word, and serve God by serving others!

Melissa Weiss Parry

Available Sunday School Classes each week at 9:45am:

Age 2—5th Grade: Basement

Middle—High School: Youth Room by the Bistro

Adult Classes: Conference Room, Cry Room, and Parlor.

**WORSHIP
WITH
US**



POOL TABLE RECOVERING: Our youth Sunday School students play pool every Sunday morning before and after Sunday school (and at various other times). Our pool table is suffering from the wear and tear of life. We'd love to have it recovered, but it will cost about \$350. If you are willing to help please drop off checks or money with Ms. Sherri in the office. Thanks so much!!!

Parish Ed Committee.... We meet on the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the Parlor. If you have any interest in what we are planning please join us at one of our meetings. Next meeting is November 5th.

Upcoming Dates:

Nov. 18 No Sunday School classes for Thanksgiving holidays.

Dec. 9 **Sunday School Christmas Program**

Ages 2—Adult are welcome to join us for the program at 8:45am.
Musicians (Middle School—Adult) Play with Pastor Tom's Band!

Dec. 23 No Sunday School classes for Christmas holidays.

Dec. 30 No Sunday School classes for New Year holidays.

Sunday School: Classes start for all ages (Pre-K through adult) on Sundays at 9:45am.

Melissa Weiss Parry, melissap@ilcpville.org

Serving in November 2018

Acolytes

Nov 4: Addison Villegas (7:45) Tate Reiland & Stella Rachui (11:00)
Nov 11: Emerson Perisho (7:45) Julia Mueller & Payton Montandon (11:00)
Nov 18: Ella Knobloch (7:45) Ava Owen & Kyle Ward (11:00)
Nov 25: Elliott Weiss & Logan Hodgson (8:45) Shelby Weaver & Kadie Van Houten (11:00)

Elders for November: Garry Sjolander (Early) Carol Fletcher (Middle) Kurt Schwartz (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in November or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

Readers

Nov 4: Mary Jo Beene (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Nov 11: Candy Hansen (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Nov 18: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)
Nov 25: **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

Nov 4: Mary Jo Beene (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Nov 11: Candy Hansen (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)
Nov 18: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Nov 25: **2 needed** (8:45) **2 needed** (11:00)

November Chapel Assistants

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

Altar Guild

Nov 4 & 11	Nov 18 & 25
Kristin Adix & Courtney Emken	Cheri Murray, Dorothy Kraemer, Marie Davis

Ushers

Nov 4: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Nov 11: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Nov 18: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)
Nov 25: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Children's Message

Nov 4: Claudia Cardwell (8:45) Mike Maluschka (11:00)
Nov 11: Vicki Lovett (8:45) Rebecca Dittmar (11:00)
Nov 18: **1 needed** (8:45) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)
Nov 25: Vicki Lovett (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

Nov 4: Charles Mott (7:45) Martin Jakubowsky (8:45) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
Nov 11: Brent Reeder (7:45) Martin Jakubowsky (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)
Nov 18: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Martin Jakubowsky (8:45) David Gifford (11:00)
Nov 25: Vera Gebert (8:45) Willard Hebbe (11:00)

Flower Calendar

Nov 4:
Nov 11: Altar—Gifford
Nov 18:
Nov 25:

Coffee Maker for November:
Mark Mueller