



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Tom Kesselring, Senior Pastor
Katie Wegner, Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Susan Cox, Director of Education Ministry
Claudia Cardwell, Director of Day School Ministry
website:www.ilcpville.org
email:Immanuel@ilcpville.org



Immanuel, Pflugerville, is blessed to have members with a rich diversity of opinions on many subjects. Christian people are truly blessed when they are able to disagree and yet maintain the unity of the Spirit as brothers and sisters in Christ. We don't pretend to love one another and keep our opinions to ourselves. In Christ, we acknowledge our differences and show our love for one another by treating one another with kindness and respect.

We are called to be the Church, the body of Christ, in the world, for the sake of the world. We are not isolated from our nation's current political climate. I have had ILC members say to me, "Pastor, the Church has become too political." I have had other members say to me, "Pastor, the Church should become more politically active." Not long ago, I read an article in the Austin American Statesman with the lead, "Exercised as compassion and kindness, religion can have a role in our politics," written by Walt Shelton. I want to share a good portion of it with you. I will omit references to some specific issues currently in the news. My purpose here is not to comment on any particular issues, but to lift up Bible truths upon which I hope all Christians can agree. Mr. Shelton writes,

"As a Baptist in what I consider the true historical sense, I want the state and religion to be separate. I don't want the government interfering with what anyone believes or practices in my or anyone else's faith-based tradition. Further, I don't want the government endorsing, legislating, or otherwise prescribing some political leader's belief or moral scruples.

So, if they must, how might religion and politics possibly intertwine? The same way authentic faith expressions relate to day-to-day life in any context: in qualitative action. About 2,000 years ago in the Apostle Paul's letter to the Colossians, he implored his readers to immerse themselves in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience—and to let peace rule. Further, he suggested they prioritize love above everything else. How about that for a blueprint?

In Jewish tradition—some 800 years before Paul outlined these true faith-related characteristics—God sent the prophet Amos to the northern kingdom of Israel. Amos arrived at a time of national military strength, prosperity and thriving religious institutions, which most interpreted as signs of God's favor. In contrast, Amos bravely told them God's concerns are caring for the poor and exercising justice and righteousness. The prophet Micah spoke to the southern kingdom of Judah about the same time. He similarly highlighted a purity of religious expression. Micah announced what God really cares about: doing justice, loving kindness and living with humility.

Amos, Micah and Paul ... are part of the fabric of Judeo-Christian faith traditions. ...If religion is going to influence politics and leadership, using some measure of what Amos, Micah, and Paul suggested long ago is a good plan. Truly exercising compassion, kindness, patience and peacefulness toward all constituents and colleagues—including those across the aisles—serves everyone in our state and country quite well. Actualizing such priorities in a spirit of humility would be special in any session. Even a few meaningful steps in that direction would be nice—whether one grounds it in religion, civility or simply public service."

Walt Shelton is an environmental attorney in Austin and teaches at Baylor Law School. I say, "Amen," to his editorial. Christian friends, where ever our opinions may fall on the political spectrum, may God grant us grace to witness these truths of Scripture through our words and actions as we gather and worship, grow in the Word, and serve God by serving people.

Pastor Tom

Tired and Retired got together with twenty-eight present in July for a delicious potluck. Thanks to the Day School for entertaining once again. The birthday prizes were won by Robert Boehm, Brenda Bubert and Merle Weiss. Thanks also to a wonderful presentation from Allison Strupeck from the Pflugerville Fire Department on severe weather preparation.

Becky and I (Janelle) would like to thank Barbara Bohls, Joy Pfluger and UP (United Partners) for leading the group in our absence. I know it was a great time for all. Please join us on Wednesday, August 9th at 11:30am for another potluck. We will be recognizing the following August birthdays: Annyce Bohls, James Bohls, Trelton Bohls, Sue Bryant, Bob Byrdson, Marian Cearley, Susan Cox, Chris Dungan, Kathy Dungan, John Franklin, Gary Glass, Julia Hebbe, Glenn Herzog, Melissa Hodgson, Charles Kleen, Joan Kotal, Terrance Krause, Vernice Krueger, Pat Luedecke, Sandra Meyer, Susan Mitchell, Diane Moellenberg, Winnie Mae Murchison, Nathzele Pfluger, Walter Randig, Peggy Roberts, Wayne Saegert, Faye Schott, Jane Schroeder, Hugh Smith, Sherry Sullivan, Pat Weiss, Otto Werchan, Betty Wicklund.

Women
Of The
ELCA



Lutheran World Relief: Your back-to-school shopping could help a child in another country. Stores will stock school supplies in anticipation of back-to-school. This is a great time for you to help us gather supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits! As you pick up school supplies for your family, grab an item or two for our kits! Donations may be left in the WELCA room. Immanuel's WELCA group focuses on collecting supplies for school kits in and August. Each kit includes:

- Four 70- sheet spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- One 30- centimeter ruler or a ruler with inches and centimeters
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One box of crayons (16 or 24 count)
- One 2 ½" eraser

Ladies Salad Supper: Please join us in the Parish Hall for our annual Salad Supper on Thursday, August 10th at 6:30pm. Bring a favorite salad to share and enjoy an evening of good food and fellowship. Our guest speaker will be "Katie Luther". She will reflect on her life as the wife of the "Great Reformer" Martin Luther. Hope to see you there!

All Congregational Dinner honoring Immanuel's Senior Members will be held on Sunday, September 17th in the Parish Hall after the 11am service. Pork Loin will be served by Immanuel's Holy Smokers and those under 70 years of age are asked to please bring a dessert.

SUMMER....time for vacations, family, bbqs, swimming, and ice cream. Summer is a busy time for our volunteers. It is sometimes difficult to find the drivers we need; but it is also amazing to see how it works out in the end. You see, Drive a Senior-Senior Access volunteers are the BEST! You make this organization great! Drive a Senior-Senior Access is very aware that you have a choice in how, where, and with whom you volunteer and donate. The clients you serve are so grateful you have chosen them. They love seeing you and are grateful for the opportunity it gives them to be able to get out of their homes to do the business that they need to do, especially during the hot summer. Thank you! If you are interested in helping your senior neighbors have access to transportation this summer, contact Sherrie at 512 310 1060 or vr@driveasenior.org and volunteer today.

We sincerely want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our church family. To Pastor Tom for his wonderful guidance, faithful service and prayers. Especially that he took time, to support us during his vacation. We appreciate all the wonderful acts of kindness, the prayers, cards and phone messages. To all the ladies of the Church Circle for the dedication and wonderful funeral lunch they prepared and served. Together all of you helped make Britta's tribute so very special. Our appreciation is more than words can ever be truly expressed. Thank you kindly so very much!

Sincerely,
Glenn Herzog and family

Dear Fellow ILC Members,

As a result of our July 8th town hall meeting and in accordance with our Constitution, as President of the Church Council, I am calling a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 27, 10:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall, to determine what we will do with the Church's property on 6th Street. Also as a result of the town hall meeting, the Council has decided to pursue an Office and Facilities Administrator in lieu of calling an Associate Pastor at this time.

With regard to the church property, the Council has discussed and deliberated the ideas expressed at the town hall meeting and we have boiled it down to a couple of options:

- **Sell.** If the congregation votes to sell the property, the revenue, which we estimate would be around \$200,000, could be appropriated by the Council to pay off existing debt, invest in other ministry opportunities, etc. It should be noted that the Council would consider any ideas for reallocation of this asset. However, the Council is very interested in debt reduction.
- **Retain.** If the congregation votes to retain the property, the Council would contract the management and lease of the property which would reduce the income while maintaining the asset. Of the estimated \$1,300-1,500 in rent collected each month, several hundred would be deducted for insurance, taxes, property management fees, and maintenance.

With regard to the Office and Facilities Administrator, Pastor Tom and a special appointed committee will draft a job description for Council approval that combines the roles of the current Financial Secretary and Facilities Coordinator. A salary line item will be included in the proposed 2018 budget for congregational consideration at the January, 2018, Annual Meeting. With approval, Pastor Tom and the Human Resources Committee will then begin a search to fill the position.

Thank you for your participation and support of the ministry we share at ILC.

Your Brother in Christ,
Brett Coleman
Council President

Mini-Treasurer's Report:	
General Fund	
Balance 06/23/2017	\$ 15,527.18
Income 06/24-07/22	48,698.18
Expenses 06/24-07/22	- 52,987.46
Balance 07/22/2017	<u>\$ 11,237.90</u>
Loan Balance - Comerica	\$ 67,065.82
Loan Balance - First Texas	200,000.00
Building Loan Account Balance	48,896.71
Day School:	
Balance 06/23/2017	\$ 69,068.38
Income 06/23-07/22	100,535.28
Expenses 06/23-07/22	- 93,280.12
Balance 07/22/2017	<u>\$ 76,323.54</u>

Food Pantry News for June
 Number of clients assisted—113
 Number of Family Members—356
 New clients included—4
 Pastors Fund assists—

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:

Baptism: 7/16—Savannah Myah-Rose Preusse
 Death: 7/15—Flora Lee Cochran

Stewardship Committee: Concerning the pledge card status, Ralph presented an example of a standard "pledge" type card available through Hubbard Press at a cost of \$30.00 per 100. It was his recommendation that consideration be given to this approach rather than the church staff design and produce the pledge card. Suggested modifications were agreed to and Ralph will contact Hubbard Press accordingly. Additional information to be included were references to online giving, Simply Giving. The time line for the pledge card implementation requires that the supply be available by September 1st.

May 12, 2017

Dear Pastor or Congregation:

We are thrilled to share with you that Megan Freudenberg has been appointed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to serve as a volunteer in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program! Megan will serve in Central Europe for one year beginning in August.

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program provides young adults, ages 21-29, with a life-changing yearlong journey in international mission service. Through this program, Megan and 95 other volunteers will take part in service ranging from congregational ministry, to teaching, to supporting social service ministries, to health and development projects.

Even more significantly, as the volunteers walk alongside our companion churches and their host communities, they are transformed and informed, engaging in relationships of mutuality, interdependence, solidarity and trust. Through this year of service, they become more aware of the ways in which God is active all around the world and join in the work of peace and reconciliation that we have been called to.

On average, the total annual cost to support one young adult in the program is \$15,000. This includes training and periodic retreats, roundtrip travel to and from the country of service, full room and board, a small monthly living allowance, and basic international medical insurance. As part of accepting this invitation to serve as a YAGM volunteer, Megan is responsible for raising a minimum of \$5,000 toward their year of service. The ELCA will help to provide the remaining amount needed for the volunteer's support. Any funds raised beyond the \$5,000 goal goes to support the future development and expansion of the Young Adults in Global Mission program.

We would like to invite your congregation to support Megan in this coming year, and to lift up this work as a ministry of your congregation! Through Megan's service alongside our global companions, your congregation is able to extend its ministry to another part of the world and become a part of the mission of this church.

Please prayerfully consider financially supporting Megan at the full \$5,000 fundraising amount and consider the ways in which you can also provide spiritual and personal support as all of the YAGM embark on this journey of service.

Thank you for the ways that your congregation has supported Megan Freudenberg thus far, and for the ways you'll walk with Megan in this call to global mission service. Your prayer support and encouragement are greatly appreciated.

Together in Mission,

The Reverend Rafael Malpica Padilla
Executive Director
ELCA Global Mission

Andrew Steele
Director
ELCA Global Church Sponsorship

"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

From the Youth & Family Ministry Office...

That's a wrap! All the traveling for youth ministry activities of summer 2017 have concluded.

There is so much planning and coordinating that goes into the weeks of mission trips and summer camp, it's sometimes hard to believe that they can be over in just one week. I hope you get a chance to talk with some of our young people or adult leaders that went on mission trips, participated in Tougher Than Nails, or went to Camp Chrysalis - what a fantastic summer!! July 30th and August 16th at 10am in the parish hall our high school and middle school young people will share about their trips to Colorado and Arlington.

On our middle school mission trip we did a lot of serving, lived in a small apartment together for the week, and studied the idea to "Live with a Mission". We pondered and talked about what it meant to not just make mission a week out of our year but an everyday endeavor for us and our Christian faith.

On our high school mission trip to Colorado Springs we pondered and discussed Psalm 121:1-2, "I lift my eyes to the mountains, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, maker of heaven and earth." There is so much hope for our world in the lives of these young people!!

At Tougher Than Nails we went Back to the Basics as we discussed Mark 12:30, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." Our middle school young people were challenged to think about each of those pieces and how Christ holds us together into one whole being, created to love God and love neighbor.

Our week at camp with 51 1st - 7th graders was a hot one, but a fantastic one. Our 7th grade confirmation students studied the two sacraments of the Lutheran church, Baptism and Communion. All of our other campers studied the seasons of the church year and the opportunities that they have 24/7, 365 to be a part of the Church and that God is there all the time.

The summer is an incredibly busy time, but I want to take this opportunity to pause and reflect on just how blessed and privileged I am to share time with our young people. They indeed will bring great things to the future of our church - but, we must not forget that they bring great things to our church of NOW!!

I am renewed by the sense of wonder and adventure of our young people. I am in awe of their passion to serve. I am inspired by their compassion for the most vulnerable of people. I am humbled by the wisdom of their minds and the faith of their hearts.

We are a better congregation and a better church because of our young people. We are brought into a bolder living to gather, worship, grow and serve because we draw our young people into the center of the mission we share. Thanks be to God for a congregation that believes in this as much as I do!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the adult leaders who made these trips possible. They bring such love and compassion for our young people with them as they make these trips. They are more than another set of eyes and drivers - they are equally ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. A HUGE thank you to the following adults for their time, energy, faith and love for our young people - Steve Dubes, Kaari Zamora, Angie Kuempel, Steve Barczy, Devorah Jakubowsky, Clint Fletcher, Mike Maluschka, Cassi Montandon, Stacy Mueller, and Kelly Knobloch. Words cannot express my thanks and appreciation enough.

May we as a congregation continue to boldly support our young people by drawing them into the center of our life together. May we continue to encourage them, pray for them and let them be our example for faith and love. Thanks be to God for all of our young people and those who support them in their faith journey.

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

Katie Wegner,
Director of Youth and Family Ministry

August - 2017

Youth and Family Ministry Calendar:

August 14 - The Last Movie Night Monday for Summer 2017

We will watch *Finding Dory* with breakfast for dinner on the menu (pancakes, sausage, and fruit) Dinner served at 5:00pm, Movie starts at 5:30pm. Freewill offering for dinner, bring a pillow and blanket. Invite your friends and neighbors!!

August 27 - Backpack Blessing

At both worship times we will invite all children, teachers, school staff and administrators forward for a special blessing as they begin another school year. Bring your backpack and invite your friends/neighbors!

Youth Calendar Continued on page 7.....

SAVE THESE DATES!!

September 10 - Rally Day
 September 17 - Sr. Member Dinner
 October 20-22 - Middle School Youth Gathering at Camp Chrysalis
 October 25 - Trunk or Treat!!
 October 29 - BBQ Chicken Fundraiser for Youth Ministry

EDUCATION MINISTRY

August 2017

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

AFTER VACATION.....It's hard for me to put my arms around the concept that our summer is 1/2 over and it's time to start getting ready for the 2017-2018 school year. Stores have put out their school supplies and lists of what are needed, TV commercials are already advertising "back to school" deals, some younger teacher friends of mine are already shopping for their classroom. Where has time gone?

Facebook has allowed all of us to visit places that our friends/family go (without us) through the uploading of pictures, the "checking in" of where they are and texting that "they miss you" reminds us that even though we aren't together we are still thought of.

Rick and I are going to take time to get away in late August/early September. It will be time to "unplug" from the day to day routine and reconnect with each other and God's majesty in His creation. Like everyone else we are in hopes that we will be refreshed and renewed when we return.

So what happens after vacation? Some people start new jobs, some people go off to college, some people slip back into their familiar life routines, some people move, other people gear up for the fall and all that awaits. What person are you? I'm hopeful you'd like to get out of your comfort zone and come and help teach Sunday School. Our age groups are pre-K through adult and we ALWAYS need teachers. Don't think it's for you? Sit down with Katie and/or I for a few minutes and let us all explore the endless possibilities of serving our students on Sunday mornings. We have some fabulous teachers that will be returning and we are forever grateful to them for their service, but we still need more. Our curriculum is such that it's easy to prepare and equip you for any given Sunday's lessons.

Please consider it...you have been invited just by reading this article.

I know that you will be happy you did. We need you, our students need you, God needs you!

Pillows are being donated, we still need more to enwrap in the pillow cases tie dyed by our students during Tougher than Nails. These pillows will be a blessing to *Upbring* kiddos who leave their homes without any belongings to be put into the Foster Care System. Please drop off a new standard sized pillow to the church office by August 31st. Thanks so much.

Parish Ed Committee meets 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 Mon., August 7th. We have lots to plan for during the fall/winter and we could use your help.

Upcoming Dates:

September 10th	Rally Day
October 16th	Chic Fundraising Event at Charming Charlie's
October 25th	Trunk or Treat (and Spooktacular)
November 16th	Merry, Martha & Me
December 10th	Sunday School Christmas Program

Summer Sunday School: Adult classes will continue to meet. Pre-K through 5th will meet in the basement. Middle & High School are suspended until Fall.

Serving in August 2017

Acolytes

Aug 20: Allison Morris & Marah Kluge (8:45) Sam Robar & Landon Self (11:00)

Elders for August: Larry Bradley (Early) Carol Fletcher (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in August or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

Readers

Aug 6: Courtney Emkem (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Aug 13: Candy Hansen (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Aug 20: Annyce Bohls (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Aug 27: **1 needed** (8:45) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

Aug 6: **5 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **4 needed** (11:00)

Aug 13: Candy Hansen, **4 needed** (8:45) **5 needed** (11:00)

Aug 20: Annyce Bohls, **2 needed** (8:45) Grace Lin, **2 needed** (11:00)

Aug 27: **5 needed** (8:45) **5 needed** (11:00)

August Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley (20)

Late Service: J.B. Marshall (20)

Altar Guild

Aug 20th

Sharion Tanner, Trilba Eschberger, Jan Selman

Ushers

Aug 6: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Aug 13: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Aug 20: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Aug 27: **4 needed** (8:45) **4 needed** (11:00)

Children's Message:

Aug 6: Katie Wegner (8:45 & 11:00)

Aug 13: Mike Maluschka (8:45) Katie Wegner (11:00)

Aug 20: Melissa Malinowski (8:45) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)

Aug 27: Katie Wegner (8:45 & 11:00)

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

Aug 6: Rick Cox (8:45 & 11:00)

Aug 13: Rick Cox (8:45 & 11:00)

Aug 20: Brent Reeder (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)

Aug 27: Rick Cox (8:45 & 11:00)

Coffee Makers

Aug 6: Hal Kuempel

Aug 13: Mark Mueller

Aug 20: Kristin Adix

Aug 27: Lon Duke

Flower Calendar

Aug 6: Parish Hall—P. Wolff

Aug 13:

Aug 20:

Aug 27: