



## Notes from Nancy



*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"* 2 Corinthians 5: 17

Walt Wangerin writes: *"At the center of Easter is Jesus. At the center of the Christian church there can be nothing but Christ. At the center of any true and durable human justice - as its source and its purity - must be the love of God made manifest in the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*At the center of our faith: Jesus! At the center of our lives: Christ"*

Many people think of Easter as a one-day event, but the season of Easter lasts many weeks, fifty days in all. It is not just one day when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, but a reminder to celebrate every morning!

In fact, Martin Luther suggested that we should make the sign of the cross each morning as a reminder of *whose* we are and of the great gift of new life that we have received as Easter people.

If the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection does not change your life - if it does not cause you to give thanks for the gift of God's Son, then maybe you need to look again into the empty tomb and listen to Mary's words; *"He is risen - for you and for me!"*

We have been so blessed by God's wonderful gift of new life and His gracious activity in our lives that we need to respond with faithfulness and generosity. When we share with others, God will abundantly shower us with more blessings. All that we have and all that we are given each day are gifts from God to be used in service to Him.

*"Remember, at the center of all we do: Jesus. The center of our every act; the motive for all our relationships; the delight in which we rise of a morning; the peace we enter every night: Jesus! The Lord Jesus! The Lord Jesus Christ! Him! Him Alone!"*



LET EASTER BE MORE THAN A DAY.

LET EASTER DEFINE OUR LIVES TOGETHER.

ALLELUIA!!!

*Welcoming All, Growing Together in Faith, Sharing Christ's Love*

## Voting Members needed for Synod Assembly!

June 4-5, 2021

*United with Christ in Baptism  
One Body, Many Members*

The Central States Synod Assembly will be virtual this year. Immanuel needs 2 voting members to attend (preferably 1 male and 1 female). Voting members must have reliable access to the internet.

The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the synod and is charged with electing members to the Synod Council, other synod committees, and Churchwide voting members when needed, voting on a budget and other resolutions that are presented to the assembly. For more information about the Synod Assembly, visit <https://www.css-elca.org/assembly>.

If you are interested in serving as a voting member for Immanuel, please contact the church office at 825-4750.



Immanuel has home medical equipment that congregational members may check out for use. Items must be checked out from the church office and a liability waiver must be signed. Please contact the church office for more information.

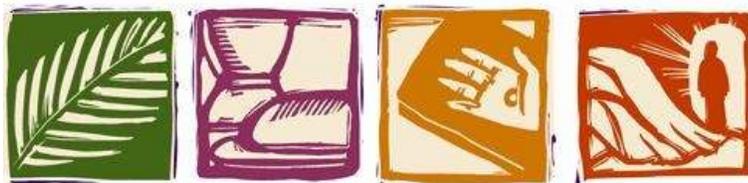
Cookbooks from the 140th Anniversary are available for purchase. Cost is \$10 each. Please see Mindy in the church office if you would like to purchase one.



## Congregation Council Action from February 2021:

Youth & Education Ministry Team recommended closing Happy Hearts Preschool at the end of the current school year (June 2021) because: 1) the congregation is in transition with the future unknown, 2) the preschool is not financially sustainable, and 3) there is an increase in community resources to fill the need for preschool programs. Motion was approved.

## HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday, March 28**

**8:30am & 11:00 am**

*Service of Holy Communion  
There will be no processional.*

**Maundy Thursday, April 1**

**12:15pm & 7:00pm**

*Service of Holy Communion*

**Good Friday, April 2**

**7:00pm**

*Tenebrae Service*

**Easter Sunday, April 4**

**8:30am & 11:00am**

*Service of Holy Communion*

## ELCA Anti-Racism Pledge

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:17).*

In 2019, at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members adopted a resolution designating June 17 as a commemoration of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people shot and killed on June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

As church we are called to confess the sin of racism, condemn the ideology of white supremacy, and strive for racial justice and peace. Beyond statements and prayers, we are called to also act and respond to injustices.

To read and commit to one or more of the actions in the pledge, visit [www.elca.org/racialjusticepledge](http://www.elca.org/racialjusticepledge)



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## Church Anniversary

In order that we may gather safely without any restrictions, the Congregational Council, in consultation with the Anniversary Planning Team, has postponed the celebration of Immanuel's anniversary until May 1, 2022. Mark your calendars for this celebration!

## Welca Meeting

**April 8 at 2:00pm**

We are looking forward to seeing you!

## LWR Personal Care kits Sunday, April 18 at 9:30 am

Immanuel will join Lutheran World Relief in serving our poorest neighbors by providing real, tangible hope in the form of Personal Care kits.

Following the 8:30 worship on April 18, we will assemble the supplies you generously donated for the Personal Care kits. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers must wear a mask.



## Saturday, April 17 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Community-wide clean-up

Meet at worksite, tools provided. You must wear a mask, bring your own water, snacks and gloves. Social Distancing will be mandatory. Children under 12 need to be accompanied by an adult.

Worksites are: Ashby House (204 S 8th), North Town (9th & Broadway), Community Housing Development Organization (9th & Hamilton), Emergency Aid Food Bank (255 S Chicago), Mounted Patrol & Rescue (1020 W North), Old Smoky Hill River Channel (YMCA parking lot), Salina Downtown (Strand Plaza), The Temple (336 S Sante Fe).

## Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to [mindy@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:mindy@immanuelsalina.org)

Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

### CONTACT US:

255 S. 7th St.....Salina, KS 67401  
Church office.....(785) 825-4750  
Nancy Mitchell, Synod Authorized Minister...nancy@immanuelsalina.org  
Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....mindy@immanuelsalina.org  
Erica Arb, Preschool.....happyhearts@immanuelsalina.org



## Altar Guild

**Saturday, April 3 at 10:00am**

Set up for Easter

**Wednesday, April 21 at 5:15pm**

Monthly meeting

## Message from the Bishop

Thank you for your faithful and generous mission support to the synod and larger church. I continue to be amazed and extremely grateful that congregations gave \$46,488 more in mission support last year than the previous year. Your gifts have enabled us to continue responding to God's call to be the church together, sharing the love of Christ through our various ministries and congregations.

This has been a challenging year in so many ways. Certainly, there have been opportunities for new creative ventures, but here has also been a great deal of anxiety regarding when and how we will come out of this pandemic, what a new normal will look like, what the long-term affect will be on the future of our congregations. I would ask in the coming months you:

**\*\* Support and care for your pastoral leaders.** Many have worked long and hard to do ministry in new ways. There have been conflicts and differences about what is best that they have had to navigate.

**\*\* Make sure your pastoral leaders are participating in the boundary training workshops sponsored by the synod.** For the safety and well being of all our congregations, all Rostered Ministers and Synod Authorized Ministers actively serving congregations are required to take this training.

**\*\* Take time to reflect with your pastoral leader and other leaders about your purpose and mission as a congregation.** Times of crisis call us to greater clarity about our values and direction. What has God been calling you to these days?

Finally, know that I and my staff are here to support you, to provide resources, to answer questions and address concerns. Please feel free to reach out if there is anyway we can be helpful.

Thank you and blessings during this Lenten season. The Rev. Susan Candea, Bishop of the Central States Synod

*Editor's Note: A certificate of appreciation for Immanuel's mission support is on the bulletin board outside the main offices. Also, Nancy and Mindy are registered to participate in the boundary workshops.*



## VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND—APRIL 9-11

*Summer is just around the corner.....Pick a day and help us get ready!*

Located 5 miles from Fort Riley, help us prepare for campers to worship, play, do service and grow in their faith together as they explore how to discover and use their gifts and talents in God’s name!

We have numerous projects for you to make it a rewarding, productive and fun day including trail clearing, painting, organizing, and assembling!

To follow physical distancing guidelines, we are limiting our projects to close family and friends who can work on each project separately.

We can’t have too many rakes, shovels, cleaning supplies, paper towels, rags, leaf blowers, trimmers, and other outdoor cleaning equipment. **BRING WHAT YOU CAN!!**

### BOOK YOUR GROUP AND RESERVE YOUR PROJECT!

Doug Clopton: 913.544.6705 [dougclopton@ku.edu](mailto:dougclopton@ku.edu)  
 Jacob Spilker: 785.375.1058 [jspilker@tomahshinga.com](mailto:jspilker@tomahshinga.com)  
 Jasmine Turley: 785.534.2696 [jturley@tomahshinga.com](mailto:jturley@tomahshinga.com)

**Join Camp Tomah Shinga on April 17th** for a fun-filled day at the Annual Auction! This year, the auction will include quilts, custom woodworking pieces, game tickets, paintings, and weekend stays in Colorado cabins. All proceeds of the auction will go to the fund for camper scholarships. Every dollar given to Tomah Shinga that day will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$15,000! Be sure to watch our [Facebook page](#) for updates. Contact Megan at [megwher@gmail.com](mailto:megwher@gmail.com) with questions. Absentee bids available.



## SUMMER CAMP

Make sure you register by March 31st to get the Early Bird Special, and get \$25 off registration!  
<https://camptomahshinga.com/register> (Register according to grade completed.)

	Explorers 1st-3rd	Pathfinders 4th-6th	Trailblazers 7th-8th	Pioneers 9th-12th		Explorers 1st-3rd	Pathfinders 4th-6th	Trailblazers 7th-8th	FAMILY CAMP
June 6-8 Week 1 Session 1		\$265		\$265	June 9-11 Week 1 Session 2	\$265		\$265	
June 13-15 Week 2 Session 1	\$265		\$265		June 16-18 Week 2 Session 2		\$265		
June 20-22	----- Session Full -----				June 23-25	----- Session Full -----			
June 27-29 Week 4 Session 1		\$265	\$265		June 30-July 2 Week 4 Session 2	\$265			\$300 per family
July 4-6	No Camp				July 7-9 Week 5 Session 2			\$265	\$300 per family
July 11-13 Week 6 Session 1			\$265	\$265	July 14-16 Week 6 Session 2	----- Session Full -----			

## Witnessing in Society Team Listening Sessions

The **ELCA Witnessing in Society team** is a coordinated network of advocates who reaches out to government officials on relevant, timely issues, effectively impacting public policies. The team works for change based on the church's social teaching and the experience of Lutheran ministries, programs, and projects worldwide and in communities across the United States. Through faithful advocacy, the ELCA lives out our Lutheran belief that governments can help advance the common good.

Listening sessions provide opportunities for the Witnessing in Society team members to listen to ministry leaders and members of congregations to learn first-hand about the congregations in local congregations and communities and their needs and hopes. These sessions will help equip the team in representing the breadth of concerns across the church. They will also equip the team to better accompany congregations and their members in making their voices heard in productive ways to shape policies that reflect the needs and hopes of the local communities.

At various times individuals in the synod have expressed dismay and frustration that the policies and positions of the ELCA do not reflect their views. This is an opportunity for these individuals to share their view and be heard by members of the churchwide staff and Witnessing in Society team members.

Flooding, drought, job insecurity, poverty...What concerns do you feel are impacting your congregation and local community? What would you like the ELCA Witnessing in Society team to know? A team representative said, "I see the Midwest as key. I want the new administration to see the ELCA as an entity to go to."

### **Listening Sessions to be held in the Central States Synod: Wednesday, April 14 Thursday, April 15 Tuesday, April 20**

All sessions will all be held 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Zoom and are open to all members of the Central States Synod. To participate, please RSVP via email to [tanderson@css-elca.org](mailto:tanderson@css-elca.org) or call the synod office at 913-948-9701. The Zoom link will be sent the week prior to the session.

The primary focus of these listening sessions will be on environmental issues and care for creation to build a sustainable and resilient society for future generations. Facilitated conversations will give each individual, if they choose, an opportunity to share their perspective on:

- What is/are the current situation and concerns?
- What could be – what might the future look like?
- How might we fill the gap?

The purpose of these sessions is to provide a safe space where all voices are heard and valued, where there is mutual respect, and listening is done to gain greater understanding rather than debating and defending views and positions.



**Lutheran Disaster Response**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to those whose lives have been disrupted by disasters, in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Interested in getting involved with Central Kansas Conference Disaster Team? Contact Ben Perrin, [bperrin@css-elca.org](mailto:bperrin@css-elca.org) Director of Disaster Response, to learn more!

An introductory series of videos can be viewed at [www.css-elca.org/ldr](http://www.css-elca.org/ldr)

