



The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

January
2024

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19

A new year brings the opportunity for us to try new things. Throughout this coming year we will have trial runs for new ways to grow our faith and new ways to discover what God is up to here at Immanuel. We can expect that some things will work for us and others won't. We will try something new for three months and then evaluate whether we will continue or move on. So let's begin with some adult classes which have been missing from Immanuel for several years.



Starting the first Sunday in January (the 7th) at 11:00 am, right after worship and a little fellowship, we invite you to join an adult Bible class entitled "The Wired Word." The lessons are based each week on a current news event that is making headlines. Wired Word provides a quick summary of the news item, takes the news story that was just discussed and applies it to our lives in the Christian faith by making Scriptural connections where appropriate. Each lesson provides 3-6 critical questions. Scripture verses are included that help us see how the news item fits into a biblical context. The lessons then conclude with a closing prayer.

While we are on the subject of adult classes, how about a new members class? We have at least one new member and several prospective members who have voiced an interest in such a class. Have you been attending church here at Immanuel but not yet joined? We would love to have you pray to discern whether the Holy Spirit may be leading you to become a member. In the next few weeks I will be contacting those whom I have noticed might be interested but please don't wait for an invitation. Let me know if the idea appeals to you. Any of our present members who would like a refresher course or would like to walk along side of new members are also welcome. We will be using a simple program called "Come and Grow with Us" and Luther's Small Catechism.

Watch for other new ideas as we work our way through 2024.

Happy New Year to you and yours!

Pastor Jaegge



Welcoming All, Growing Together in Faith, Sharing Christ & Love

Join a Team!



Ministry Teams are the groups of volunteers that give life to our congregation! They are most effective when many people participate in them. If you have an interest, passion, or simply want to help in any of these areas, please attend a meeting or contact a Council member serving on that team.

Evangelism: Explores and implements various ideas for sharing the Gospel.

Finance: Manages the finances of the church.

Memorials: Oversees the donations that have been given as a memorial.

Missions: Plans various mission events.

Property: Oversees the care of the building and property.

Stewardship: Lifts up ways of giving our whole self (time, talent & resources) as an offering to God.

Worship and Music: Selects hymns and plans worship services.

Youth & Education: Guides the youth & education opportunities.

2024 Congregational Council

Congratulations to our newly elected council members and officers!

- President: Janet Ireton
- Vice-President: John Swisher
- Secretary: Alisha Cooper
- Treasurer: Gary Arpin

- Gary Arpin - Finance
- Alisha Cooper - Youth & Education
- Rick Gibson - Property
- Dorothy Hanna - Evangelism, Stewardship
- Janet Ireton - Worship & Music
- Randy Olson - Memorial, Missions
- John Swisher - Property, Memorial
- Eugene Tillberg - Finance



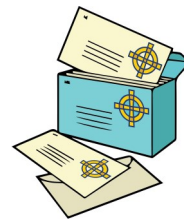
Mindy Tillberg and Alisha Cooper will be traveling to the ELCA Youth Workers Extravaganza convention in New Orleans held January 16-20. Alisha will be participating in a workshop to help prepare our group for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans which will be July 14-20, 2024.

2023 Annual Reports Due

Ministry Team and organizational leaders: year-end written reports are due Friday, December 29. Financial reports are due after December banks statements have been received.

2024 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2024 are available for pick-up in the narthex. Please see Mindy Tillberg if you can help deliver envelopes that do not get picked up.



End of Year Giving

One way to live out the meaning of the holiday season is to carefully and prayerfully consider the gifts we give and to remember Immanuel Lutheran Church on our gift list. When the church year ends in a solid financial position, we fulfill our commitment to the budget we passed 12 months earlier. More importantly, it ensures continuity of the ministry we are faithfully working to accomplish.

Please prayerfully consider Immanuel in your year-end giving. Contributions dated and received by December 31, 2023 will be considered as gifts for 2023.

Sunday Volunteers Needed

Please consider sharing your gifts in our worship!

- Greeter ~ Welcomes worshippers.
- Usher ~ Hands out bulletins, collects offering, directs worshippers to the communion rail.
- iPad ~ Starts and ends the Facebook live-stream.
- Acolyte ~ Lights the candles.
- Cantor ~ Song leader for the liturgy.
- Assisting Minister ~ Reads all the prayers and the dismissal.
- Lector ~ Reads the lessons.
- Children's Sermon ~ Prepares and leads the children's sermon.

Communion Assistant ~ Serves the wine during communion.

Fellowship Hour Host ~ Prepares and serves coffee and treat following worship.

Altar Guild ~ is always looking for new members to help prepare the sanctuary for worship.

Worship volunteer sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office. For questions about Altar Guild, please contact Monica Davis.



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Winter Weather

As we enter the season of winter weather advisories, please know that any cancellations of church activities will be posted on the congregational Facebook group (private) and page (public), KSAL.com and local radio/TV stations that we are able to contact. If you feel the roads are not safe to travel on, please stay home!



Pastor Jacque reads Wednesdays 7:00 pm

Join Pastor Jacque each Wednesday on Zoom as she reads a children’s book based on the next Sunday’s Gospel text. All are welcome to participate. Share the Zoom link with your family and friends! https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87225359402

Wired Word Adult Bible Study Sundays at 11:00 am

Join Pastor Jacque each Sunday morning, beginning January 7, for an adult education opportunity that relates current events to Scripture creating thought-provoking, stimulating discussions every week!



Summer Camp Registration Open

All Immanuel students receive a scholarship for half of the Early Bird price at Camp Tomah Shinga AND, thanks to a generous camp donor this year, an extra \$100 off is applied to the Early Bird Discount! For more information, see Mindy Tillberg.



Congregation Council Action November 2023:

Approved motion to add Randy Olson and Kathy Oehmke to the Mutual Ministry Team.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to office@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 Jacqueline Thornton, Pastor.....pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....office@immanuelsalina.org

Lessons & Carols Sunday, December 31 at 9:30 am

Join us for a worship of Lessons & Carols. Our seminary student Megan Mong will be preaching!



Wednesday, January 3 5:30-7:00 pm

Join us at Messy Church where all ages are invited to get messy together and learn about the creation story through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Walking tacos will be served at 5:30 pm, activities begin at 6:00 pm.

Altar Guild

Wednesday, Jan 3 at 3:00 pm Take down decorations Wednesday, Jan 17 at 5:15 pm Monthly meeting



Council Member Installation Sunday, January 7 at 9:30 am

All 2024 Congregational Council members will be installed during worship. Please plan to attend!



January 7-13, Immanuel will be hosting a group of students from Illinois State University who will be serving at Ashby House. Please welcome and thank them for volunteering in our community!

Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Monday, January 12 at 1:30 pm.

Join us for our monthly meeting and Bible study.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 28 10:30 am

All are welcome to this celebration of our 2023 ministries! The meeting will immediately follow worship in the sanctuary. Forty (40) members must be present for this meeting as we will be taking a final vote on constitutional changes.



January Worship Volunteers as of 12/21/2023

	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
Greeter				
Usher				
iPad				
Acolyte				
Cantor				
Assisting Minister				
Lector				
Children's Sermon		Liz Diehl		Liz Diehl
Communion Assistant				
Altar Guild Communion Care	Connie Beisner	Corlene Lange		
Fellowship Hosts				

February Worship Volunteers as of 12/21/2023

	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
Greeter				
Usher				
iPad				
Acolyte				
Cantor				
Assisting Minister				
Lector				
Children's Sermon				
Communion Assistant				
Altar Guild Communion Care				
Fellowship Hosts				