



Partners

*When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue,
or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.*

(1 Corinthians 14:26b)

Would it surprise you to hear that we are considered to be a “small church?” When we think of small churches, what comes most readily to mind are little country or small-town churches. Perhaps those that have to band together to form parishes in order to survive. The term, “small church,” however, is not defined by location or the size of the building. “Small church” applies to any church with fewer than 95 weekly worshippers. There are 177,000 small congregations across the United States and we are one of them.

Now, we certainly hope to grow. It would be amazing to see our pews filled and overflowing. But is this truly our goal – to be a “big congregation?” And if it is, are there any advantages to being a “small church” that we are missing in our fixation on filling the pews? Perhaps the greatest difference between large and small churches is the difference between production and participation.

The largest churches are equipped with big professional staffs. Full-time youth pastors, music directors, technicians along with large choirs, multiple musicians, and generous audio-visual equipment budgets to plan and produce beautiful and complex worship productions. Wonderful productions that the congregation gets to come and watch. But how much do they get to participate? Our greatest blessing as a “small church” is that we get to be a priesthood of all believers. We are called to participate together as the body of Christ to make church happen.

Together we plan the worship services. Together we all have a hands-on opportunity to be a part of those worship services and a part of all of the business of the church. As a small church, we have the opportunity to include our own personal signs, symbols, and traditions in our worship whether it be in our choice of services or our decorations or our traditional solos that have deep meaning for us at Immanuel. We each get to use our own special talents to glorify God and to enjoy each other’s talents. Worship is a mutual exchange between God and the gathered. That means our greatest advantage as a small church is that we are partners. We don’t get to sit back and wait for someone else to produce worship for us. How might you use your gifts, time, and talents as a worship partner this month?



Pastor Jaeger

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

As of 4/30/2023:

Revenue \$59,064.36
Expenses \$82,513.43
Deficit \$23,449.07



**Congregation Council Action
from April 2023:**

Approved motion to pay for Cultivating Generous Congregations workshops through the general fund.

Approved motions for constitutional revisions.

Approved motion to purchase from memorial funds a new church registry to maintain a hard copy of church membership records.



To My Immanuel Church Friends,
So glad you came to my party. I thank you so much for the beautiful plant...really appreciate it and your thoughtfulness. Sorry I couldn't talk very well to everyone. So grateful for the many blessings of the day and thank you for my many cards. Thanks again.
God Bless All, *Arlene Sias-Agin*

Dear Jake, Ty, Alisha, Mindy, and Pastor Jacque,
Thank you for the tremendous job you did assembling the 2 new garden beds for the children's area at the Food Bank. We have watermelons and jalapeños planted in one, and soon we will get our peanuts started in the other. Thanks for giving your time and skills!
Mary Mertz, Salina Spring Spruce-Up

We are so appreciative for all the volunteers who gave of their time to help deliver flowers for Mother's Day! The money raised will be used for youth events.
Immanuel Youth



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
Church office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-12:30 pm.

Central States Synod Assembly

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, voting on a budget, and on other resolutions that are presented to the assembly. In addition to conducting the business of the synod, voting members and visitors participate in worship and presentations designed to support the ministry we do together as a synod.



The 2023 Synod Assembly will be online June 3.

Please pray for Immanuel's voting members to the 2023 Central States Synod Assembly are Janet Iretton, Dorothy Hanna, Pastor Jacque Thornton and Deacon Mindy Tillberg.

This year's Synod Assembly offering will be dedicated to **Campus Ministry Team of the Central States Synod**. The Central States Synod has four active campus ministries: Bethany College in Lindsborg, Lutheran Campus Ministries at Kansas State University, LuMin St Louis, and Westwood House at University of Kansas. If you would like to make a special gift, please mark your donation for "Synod Assembly Offering" and place it in the offering plate on Sunday, mail it to the church or visit the church website to donate electronically.



**Church
ANNIVERSARY**

**Anniversary Planning
Committee**

Immanuel's 155th Anniversary is in 2025. If you would like to help plan the celebration, please contact Jeri Clouston or the church office.

**Share Shed
Items Needed:**

- Shoes
- Socks
- Light-weight clothing
- Blankets
- Personal hygiene items

Donations may be left in the Shed or dropped off at the church M-F, 8:30am-12:30pm.





ATTENTION: Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 4

Immediately following 9:30 am worship, there will be a brief meeting to vote on two Council recommendations:

1. Installing handicap accessible doors at the north parking lot entrance.
2. The possible expenditure of purchasing a new copy machine.

Please plan to attend as we need 40 voting members present!



Harvest Blessing & Picnic

June 4 at 6:00 pm at 7400 W Cloud St, Salina

All are welcome to this harvest blessing and picnic as we give thanks to God for farmers and pray for a safe and bountiful wheat harvest. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket, insect repellent, and sunscreen (as needed). A free picnic will follow worship. Hot dogs, chips, beans, lemonade, tea, and water will be served. PLEASE RSVP on the Facebook event or by calling the church office so we may prepare accordingly.

Wednesday, June 7 from 5:30-7:00 pm

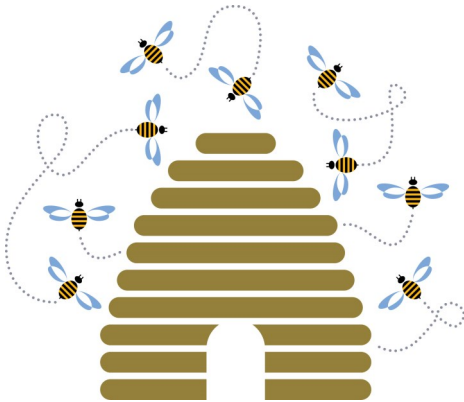
Jonah & the Whale

Join us at Messy Church where all ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Pizza dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm, activities begin at 6:00 pm.

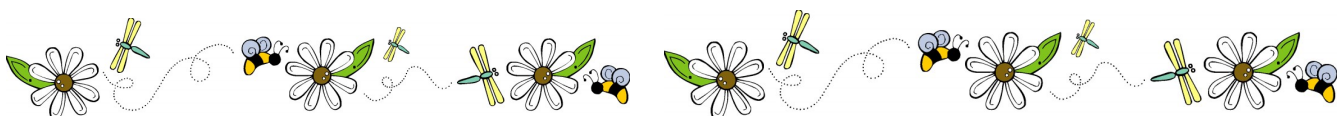


The Church Hive

Bees live in a cooperative way described as “eusociality,” or good relations. Each bee contributes a specific skill to the colony, synchronizing its efforts for the benefit of all. Likewise, a church’s health depends on all members fulfilling their responsibility to the organism as a whole. Descriptions of hive life mirror Paul’s words about the body of Christ, with members having different gifts “but the same Spirit” (1 Corinthians 12:4).



According to R.S. Beal Jr., who was both a pastor and a zoology professor, a beehive is the perfect “living illustration of how to walk in unity.” He wrote, “Those of us who have believed in Jesus belong to one another just as much as we belong to Christ. We cannot live independently of one another anymore than we can live independently of Christ. Like the bees, we must learn to practice the sacrifice, labor, sharing, and submission of love that together we ‘may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ’” (Ephesians 4:15, KJV). How are you using your own spiritual gifts to build up your church “hive”?



June Worship Volunteers as of 05/19/2023

	June 4	June 11	June 18 <i>Father's Day</i>	June 25
Greeter				
Usher	Tom Davis			
iPad				
Acolyte		Tom Davis		
Cantor				
Assisting Minister				
Lector		Kathy Yosai		Kathy Herron
Children's Sermon				
Communion Assistant				
Altar Guild Set-up	Connie Beisner	Corlene Lange	Connie Beisner	Connie Beisner
Altar Guild Clean-up	Connie Beisner	Corlene Lange	Carol Ann Sloo	Connie Beisner
Fellowship Hosts				

July Worship Volunteers as of 05/19/2023

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Greeter					
Usher					
iPad					
Acolyte					
Cantor					
Assisting Minister					
Lector					
Children's Sermon					
Communion Assistant					
Altar Guild Set-up	Kathy Herron	Jo Srna			
Altar Guild Clean-up	Kathy Herron	Norma Hodge			
Fellowship Hosts					