



# The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

March  
2019

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I was just scrolling through Facebook when I came across this statement that somebody posted: "Don't judge a church according to size of membership, but by the power of God in the church!"

Too many times people get caught up with just the numbers. They think that there must be a certain number of people at worship to show that it is a vibrant congregation. They believe that there is some sort of magical number that describes or demonstrates a congregation that is alive with the Holy Spirit.

The number keeping does have a purpose because it does show how many people are involved in what we do. But when we just focus on the numbers, then we miss out on the power of the Holy Spirit that is active through the people.

As we begin the season of Lent, I invite you to join us in worship for our midweek Lenten worships and our Sunday morning worships. But I do not invite you in order to increase our numbers, but rather I invite you so that you may continue to grow in your relationship with God as the Holy Spirit moves through you.

Here at Immanuel, we are the church and the power of God flows through us. We may not be the biggest church by the numbers, but we are mighty because of the Holy Spirit's work among us.

In Christ,  
Pastor Kent



Over 40 members attended the annual meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2019. We celebrated a successful year of ministry in 2018, and enjoyed the chili cook-off. From a financial standpoint, we finished the year 2018 with a positive balance in our unassigned cash account. If you weren't able to attend the meeting and didn't receive the written annual report packet (includes both financial information and reports from each ministry team), please pick one up in the church narthex or the church office.

We are also pleased to report that the month of January 2019, resulted in positive financial results also. January is one of the months where we pay our quarterly insurance payment of \$4,000. Many times we are strapped for cash in that month. This year our unassigned cash exceeded our unassigned expenses by \$8,740.

**THANK YOU** for all who are supporting the ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church as we live our mission. Without you, our church can't have an impact or influence in our community. With your help, we can help real people just like you. Together, we can make a difference!

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



## 2019 Summer Camp

Camp Tomah Shinga offers camps for all ages, from 1st grade through Family Camp!

Immanuel pays half of the Early Bird cost for our students to attend camp. Early Bird registration ends April 1, 2019. Register online at <http://tomahshinga.com/summercamp>

PLEASE let Mindy know if you:

- register for camp (so the church can pay its share).
- need additional financial assistance.
- are a current 6th & 7th grader attending **Confirmation Camp July 14-19.**



Thank you to the many people who braved the cold and slippery evening to support Zoe Greenemeyer's fundraiser on February 16.



Her family did an amazing job with all the soups and baked goodies! We were able to help them raise \$4,000 to assist Zoe and her family for costs associated with her jaw reconstruction surgery for idiopathic condylar resorption in Dallas this May. Please keep Zoe, Theron, Isabelle, and Emma in your prayers as her surgery date nears.



### **Welca Group**

Thursday, March 14 at 2pm  
at church

### **Anna Group**

Wednesday, March 20 at 1:30pm  
at Presbyterian Manor

### **Elizabeth Group**

Wednesday, March 20 at 6:15pm  
at church



## Dr. Dorothy Hanna Fundraiser Sunday, March 3 Noon - 1:30pm

Immanuel will be hosting a free will offering Spaghetti Dinner with all proceeds benefitting Dr. Dorothy Hanna. Dr. Hanna lost her house to fire on February 6. A long-time member of Immanuel, she leads our Sunday morning adult Bible study class and preaches for Pastor as needed. She is a Parish Ministry Associate in the Central States Synod and has served many area congregations during interims and as pulpit supply. Dr. Hanna is a professor of chemistry and chair of the division of natural sciences at Kansas Wesleyan University. If you are unable to attend this fundraiser and would like to assist in her recovery, please note her name on your donation.



## Constitutional Revisions

Corlene Lange and Mindy Tillberg are working on updating the Church Constitution. This is a massive project and we are asking for your input. Currently our church constitution requires a quorum of 40 members to take action at a business meeting of the congregation. Do you think this number should be changed or stay the same? Also, our current constitution requires two annual meetings. We have one in November to elect council members and other positions and approve the budget. The meeting in January is to celebrate the past year's accomplishments and review the actual financial results. Should we continue with two annual meetings? For several years we have been having our annual meetings after a dinner on Sunday. Do you like this format? Corlene or Mindy would be happy to provide more explanation and would like your thoughts on these questions. The goal is to have a new constitution ready for your first approval at the November 2019 annual meeting.

# Ash Wednesday, March 6

12:15 & 7:00 pm

Join us as we begin Lent with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.



There will be two groups of college students staying with us this month (see calendar). These young adults are on alternative spring breaks where they spend the week serving at Ashby House. If you happen to see them, be sure to welcome them and thank them for serving in our community!



There will be no flowers on the altar during Lent, but you will have the opportunity to purchase flowers to beautify the sanctuary on Easter. Information will be in the April newsletter.



## Newsletter Changes

To reduce costs and be better stewards of our resources, the monthly newsletter has undergone many changes. Since it will be posted on the website and Facebook and to maintain the privacy of our members, we will no longer list birthdays, worship volunteers, or those on the prayer list.

We are also looking at reducing our postage expense. If you would like to receive your newsletter by email or by picking it up on Sunday morning, please let Mindy know!



### Do you have an article for the April Messenger?

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

Deadline for the April newsletter is March 15.

### CONTACT US:

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## Confirmation Class

March 3 \* Noon-3pm

Students are reminded to bring their Bibles!



March 10

Set your clocks ahead one hour!

## Youth Group

Sunday, March 10

Noon-2pm



6-12th graders are invited for food, fellowship & fun! Please bring \$2 for lunch.

## Midweek Lenten Worship

March 13th, 20th & 27th

*“Embracing the Uncertain”*

12:15 & 7:00 with Holden Evening Prayer  
Offering designated for Ashby House.

## Altar Guild Meeting

Wednesday, March 20 at 5:15pm

## Senior Lunch

Mon, March 25 at 12:00



Please bring a dish to share. Table service provided.

## Baskets of Promise



Lutheran World Relief During Lent we will be collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. These kits give people around the world

tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. We need:

- Bath Towels (lightweight, dark colors. between 20"x40" and 52"x27")
- Bars of soap (4-5oz, in original wrapping)
- Toothbrushes (adult size)