



February 2023 *Newsletter*

## Partners in Ministry,

The season of Lent is a time of both transition and transformation. Already, we can see the days growing longer and brighter. While winter weather remains unpredictable, we've begun to see signs of new life, at least on warm days when green grass isn't shrouded in ice and slush. As we approach Ash Wednesday each year, we prepare to face our own mortality, naming the reality of death and recognizing that we are made from the dust of the earth and, one day, we will return to that dust.

This is where Lent begins—but certainly not where it ends. Over the forty-day journey through the wilderness, we draw nearer to Easter Sunday, hearing the promise that God's grace can change even the grave into a fountain of new life, welling up for eternity.

As we look forward to this season, I invite you to join us as we look for ways to experience this transformation and, hopefully, find renewal and respite for your souls. At noon on Tuesday, February 21, I will be leading a Brewing Retreat in the Luther Hall kitchen, leading any who are interested in making beer. It will grow and change over the course of our Lenten journey, until it is ready to be served following the Easter Vigil on the evening of April 8.

We will also be holding mid-week meals, with study and worship. Every Wednesday in March, at noon and at 5:30 pm, we will gather for simple meals, with study focusing on the Third Article of the Apostles' creed. We often say that we believe in "the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting," and this year we will take a deep dive into what these words mean. We'll conclude each of these days with worship in the sanctuary at 7 pm, gathering in word and prayer to hear of God's life-giving grace.

May the Holy Spirit continue to work in us, as we look forward to the future with hope.

In Peace,

*Pastor Micah Sievenpiper*

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## Join Worship in Person or Online

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 10 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the Sanctuary is streamed live on Immanuel's Youtube channel. New service times are:

8:45 am – Christian Education  
(Adult Forum and Sunday School)

10:00 am – Worship

11:00 am – Fellowship

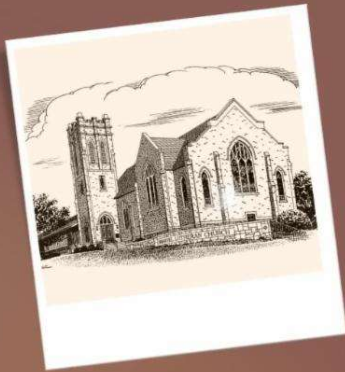
Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

[Visit our Channel](#)

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# CHURCH COUNCIL

## News



- After extended discussion, the council recommended that the draft budget prepared by the Finance Committee be presented to the congregation for approval at the Feb. 19, 2023, annual meeting.
- The council set noon Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023, as the annual meeting date. The meeting will be held via Zoom.
- President Connie Benolkin thanked two members of the church council -- Janette Rodecap & Lynden Peters -- who will be leaving the council in February. She also thanked Sara Prem, whose term ended in February, but has agreed to run for a second term.





## 2022 GIVING STATEMENTS AVAILABLE

2022 giving statements are in the narthex. Please save us the cost of a postage stamp by picking yours by February 20th.

If you need yours before then, and are not able to pick them up yourself, please let the office know.

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## *Donation Collection Continues Through February*

The traditional holiday season of giving is behind us but the needs of people who are homeless and disadvantaged remain. Pastor Ann Rundquist at Gathering Table in northeast Kansas City, which serves people in need, says those needs often increase as winter continues.

**We can help.**

Please consider adding two most-needed items -- underwear and gloves -- to your shopping list.

**Specifically:**

- Boxer-style underwear for men in large and extra-large sizes. No tight-fitting underwear, please.
- Underwear for women, sizes small through extra-large.
- Gloves in various sizes. Even brown jersey gloves are fine ... but please avoid stretchy, one-size-fits-all styles.



**Bring your donations to Immanuel during February and place them in the purple bin in the upstairs hallway. Members of the social ministry committee will deliver the underwear and gloves to Gathering Table.**

Pastor Ann thanks you in advance: “*Your donations will be a blessing to people who are struggling to stay warm and dry,*” she says.

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# FRIENDS OF LITERATURE

Thursday February 9th at 7:30 p.m. Hosted  
and led by Larry Benolkin  
16200 W. 79th Terr. Lenexa, KS 66219

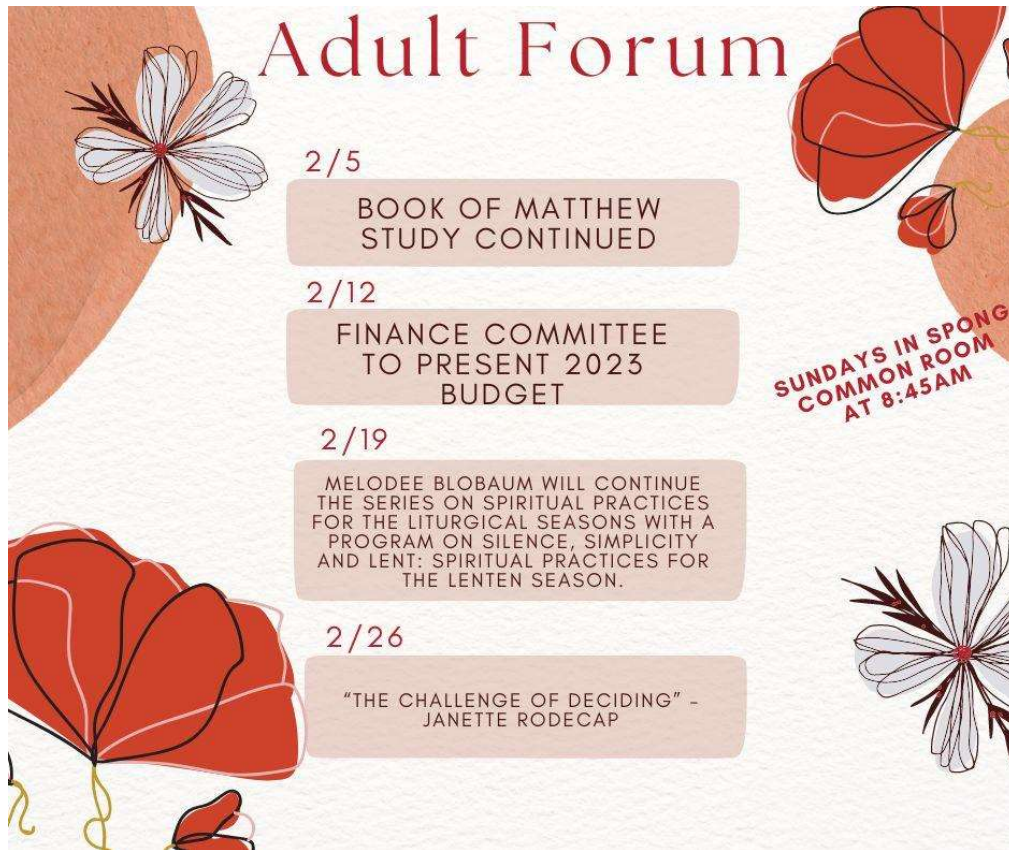
Friends of Literature

**THIS MONTHS PICK**

Where'd You Go,  
Bernadette: A Novel

**CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO LEARN  
MORE ABOUT THE BOOK**





Looking for a *lovely, but cracked, mirror?*

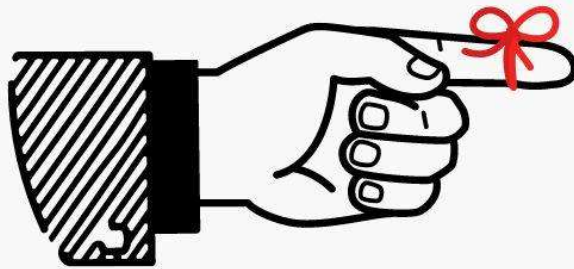
Maybe you'd like some decorative glass candle holders with a clear base whose contents can be changed with the season.

Or perhaps you're looking for an oval tablecloth.

All of these items, and more, can be found on the island in the old kitchen in the lower level of the building. They had been kept in the Altar Guild storage room, but as they are no longer used by Altar Guild, they're available for you to take.

Anything still sitting on the island after February 28, will be donated to Blessings Abound.

# *Reminder*



**Annual Reports Are Due**

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Ann Olson 2/11  
Elisabeth Harris 2/5  
Megan Sawyer 2/6  
Ted Moore 2/7  
Naomi Karmeier 2/9  
Bill Gassen 2/10  
Sally Baehni 2/11  
Randy Callstrom 2/12  
Anthony Massa 2/12  
Clark Simonich 2/14  
Brenda Kumm 2/15  
Nam Ahrens 2/16  
Bennett Kumm 2/17

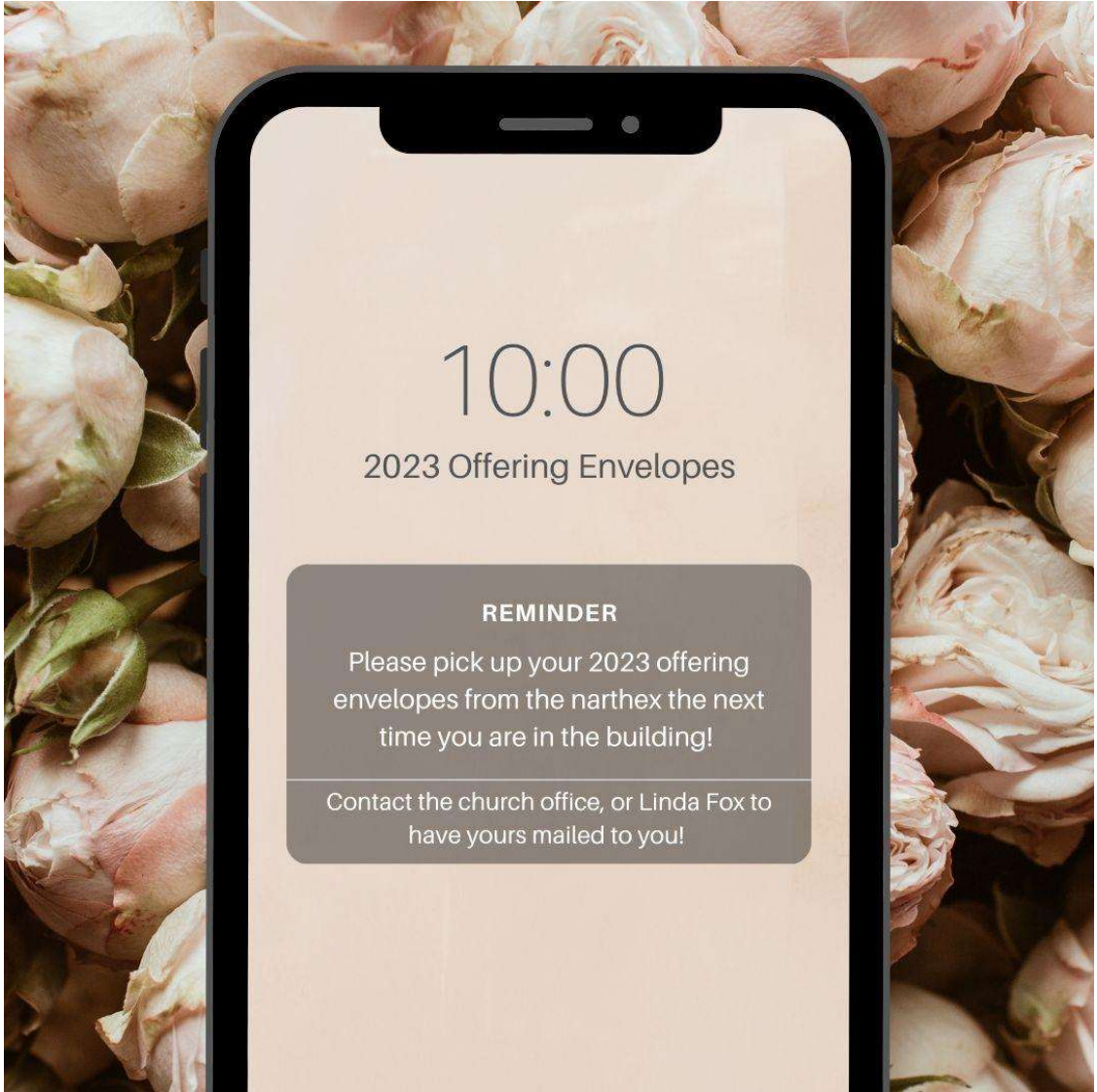
*Happy  
Birthday*

*Happy  
Birthday*



Vivian Kieslich 2/18  
Sutton Callstrom 2/20  
Carol Powers 2/20  
Lori Kueker 2/21  
Don Arney 2/22  
Kevin Fewell 2/22  
Mae Harris 2/22  
Bonnie Thomas 2/22  
Josie Yungeberg 2/22  
Nathan Kennedy 2/23  
Evan Atherton 2/26  
Evan Velasco 2/26  
Rebecca Callstrom 2/28






10:00

2023 Offering Envelopes

**REMINDER**

Please pick up your 2023 offering envelopes from the narthex the next time you are in the building!

Contact the church office, or Linda Fox to have yours mailed to you!



Now my eyes will be  
open and my ears  
attentive to the  
prayer that is made  
in this place.

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2 CHRONICLES 7:15

## Members of Immanuel

Rick Crawford,  
Andree  
Cuthbertson,  
Kevin Fewell,  
Peg Himebaugh,

## Friends of Immanuel

**Cheri Hernandez**, niece of Carmen Norris

**Karen Brooks**, sister of Beth Callstrom

**Baby Cruz and the Brown Family**, family of  
Jean Nuernberger

**James, Jim and Ethel Clanin**, family of Lori  
Clanin

**Sharda Family**, friends of Vicki Swanson



Naomi  
Karmeier,  
Family and  
Friends of  
Dottie Keough,  
Family and  
Friends of Jack  
Landes,  
Terry Kueker,  
Ellen Parson,  
Carol Powers,  
Deanne  
Schlehuber,  
EB Walker &  
Carolyn Wilson

**Family and Friends of Darlene**

**Henninger**, aunt of Catie Tomlin

**Normajean Holtje**, cousin of Mike Ortmann

**Betty Ladwig**, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton

**Steve Lucht**, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore

**Cindy Kempcke**, sister in law of Melodee Blobaum

**Dale & Kay Mowbray**, friends of Deanne Schlehuber

**Patrick**, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family

**Beth Shepard**, sister of Patti Winkler

**Abbie Pohle & Page Pohle**, sister and step-father of Rachel Decator

**Janet & Randy Spicer**, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe

**Family and Friends of Alice Caspers**

**Family & Friends of Pam Staggs**, sister of Connie Ross

**Family & Friends of Donald Vought**, father of Donna Roth

**Family & Friends of Ted Werbin**, friend of Linda Fewell

**Women of Westport Oxford House**, friends of Immanuel

*If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.*

*Email [ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com](mailto:ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com) to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.*



February 5th

**Presiding Minister – Rev. Micah Sievenpiper**

**Assisting Minister – Karen Bame**

**Lay Reader – Catie Tomlin**

**Communion Steward – Linda Fox**

**Acolyte – Ciara Boyd**

**Crucifer – Ingrid Peterson**

**Ushers – Terry Kueker**

**Altar – Bonnie Thomas**

**Media – Rick Sundell**

**First Reading – Micah 6:1–8**

**Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:18–31**

**Psalmody – Psalm 15**

**Gospel – Matthew 5:1–12**

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February 12th

February 19th

**Presiding Minister – Rev.  
Micah Sievenpiper**  
**Assisting Minister – Jeff Fox**  
**Lay Reader – Jeri Yungeberg**  
**Communion Steward – Milan  
Hanson**  
**Acolyte – Alex Hastings**  
**Crucifer – BJ Laven**  
**Ushers – Ken Beckman, Josie  
Yungeberg, Connie Ross**  
**Altar – Karen Bame, Heather  
Winker**  
**Media – Jack & Tori Friedrich**

**First Reading –Deuteronomy  
30:15–20**  
**Second Reading – 1  
Corinthians 3:1–9**  
**Psalmody – Psalm 119:1–8**  
**Gospel – Matthew 5:21–37**

**Presiding Minister – Rev.  
Micah Sievenpiper**  
**Assisting Minister – Connie  
Benolkin**  
**Lay Reader – Connie Ross**  
**Communion Steward – Rick  
Sundell**  
**Acolyte – Charlie Friedrich**  
**Crucifer – Ingrid Peterson**  
**Ushers – Scott Thompson**  
**Altar – Milan Hanson, Bonnie  
Thomas**  
**Media – Milan Hanson**

**First Reading – Exodus 24:12–  
18**  
**Second Reading – 2 Peter  
1:16–21**  
**Psalmody – Psalm 2**  
**Gospel – Matthew 17:1–9**

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**February 22nd  
Ash Wednesday  
Noon Service**

**Presiding Minister – Rev.  
Micah Sievenpiper**  
**Assisting Minister – Vicki  
Swanson**  
**Lay Reader – Linda Taylor**

**February 22nd  
Ash Wednesday  
7 p.m. Service**

**Presiding Minister – Rev.  
Micah Sievenpiper**  
**Assisting Minister – Karen  
Bame**  
**Lay Reader – Jessie Laughridge**

**Communion Steward – Linda  
Taylor  
Altar – Milan Hanson**

**First Reading – Joel 2:1–2, 12–  
17**

**Second Reading – 2  
Corinthians 5:20b--6:10**

**Psalmody – Psalm 15**

**Gospel – Matthew 6:1–6, 16–  
21**

**Communion Steward – Rick  
Sundell  
Altar – Milan Hanson**

**First Reading – Joel 2:1–2, 12–  
17**

**Second Reading – 2  
Corinthians 5:20b--6:10**

**Psalmody – Psalm 15**

**Gospel – Matthew 6:1–6, 16–  
21**

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## **February 26th**

**Presiding Minister – Rev. Micah Sievenpiper**

**Assisting Minister – Tori Friedrich**

**Lay Reader – Jean Nuernberger**

**Communion Steward – Melodee Blobaum**

**Acolyte – Josh Friedrich**

**Ushers – Scott Thompson, BJ Laven & Jack Friedrich**

**Altar – Milan Hanson, Bonnie Thomas**

**Media – Milan Hanson**

**First Reading – Genesis 2:15–17, 3:1–7**

**Second Reading – Romans 5:12–19**

**Psalmody – Psalm 15**

**Gospel – Matthew 4:1–11**

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Friday, February 3rd

None

Saturday, February 4th

9:30 a.m. Shin Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

Sunday, February 5th

8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

8:45 a.m. Sunday School, Gathering Space

8:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

11 a.m. Coffee Hour, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

6:30 p.m. Musica Vocale, Luther Hall

Monday, February 6th

12:00 pm Trumpet Rehearsal, Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Youth Chorus, Sanctuary, Spong, GS, LH

Tuesday, February 7th

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, February 8th



6:00 p.m. Shin Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

## Thursday, February 9th

6:00 p.m. VNA, Gathering Space

7:00 p.m. OA-KC, Luther Hall

7:30 p.m. Friends of Literature, Benolkin Residence 16200 W. 79th Terr.  
Lenexa, KS 66219

## Friday, February 10th

None

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, **816-931-8483** or [office@immanuelkc.org](mailto:office@immanuelkc.org).

COME WORSHIP WITH US

# ALL ARE WELCOME

Immanuel Lutheran Church

1700 Westport Rd, KCMO



# Staff

Rev. Micah Sevenpiper, Pastor  
msievenpiper@gmail.com

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Robert Barthel, Organist  
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, Parish Coordinator  
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, Building Superintendent  
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

# Council

Connie Benolkin, President  
Bonnie Thomas, Vice President  
Melodee Blobaum, Secretary  
Kathy Linder, Treasurer  
Linda Fox, Financial

Henrik Anderson  
Randy Callstrom  
Mason Carey  
Elizabeth Hastings  
Lynden Peters  
Sara Prem  
Janette Rodcap  
Scott Thompson

