IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH SUMMER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 7 2023

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor \sim The Rev. Scott R. Lee

Secretary ~ Vi Mayberry

Director of Music ~ Kathleen Schneider

CHURCH COUNCIL

Jean Crane Fran Fisher Karl McClellan Don Watts Robin Woodrow - **President** Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus-Vice President Joyce Morrison - Secretary Joe Kintsche Fred Warner

Vacation Bible School is Coming Quickly!



Hero Hotline - Called Together to Serve God will be happening August 7 – 11; 9:00 – 11:30. Children will discover what makes a superhero SUPER! We will learn Bible stories, sing and dance, make amazing crafts, play games and have a daily snack. All children 3 years (toilet trained) through those who finished 4th grade are included. Go to <u>immanuelnorwood.org/church-calendar</u>

for more info and registration. Or complete the paper copy available at the church in the hospitality area and return it to the church office. Info? Call 610-586-5860.

We can use your help! Please see Pastor Scott or Jeanne Warner to see how you can help. Let's make this another successful year!



Help clean the church for VBS! Saturday, August 5th starting at 9:00AM.



Plan to join us on Sunday, September 10th for worship and a picnic lunch in Norwood Lower Park. Look for details in the bulletin and/or the September newsletter. Immanuel will provide the fried chicken and the rest of us will bring dishes to share. Please sign up on the sheet in the Hospitality Room so we can plan enough food. Property committee will need assistance to transport tables, chairs and other equipment. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll meet in the church basement.

Praying for No Summer Slump

Summer is here! Hot weather, schools out, vacations, camping and other summer activities! There will be times you might not get to church due to these fun activities and that is understandable. What we hope and pray is that we don't see a summer slump, and we don't mean for Phillies baseball, rather a slump in our giving.

Why not simplify and make giving easy and automatic?

Here are **two ways** you can do that:

- 1. Your Bank: Set up a monthly cashier's check to be drawn on one of your accounts and mailed to the church. This is a recurring process so you don't have to worry about it! For example Wells Fargo will help you set this up at no cost to you! Contact your bank and they can help you set it up.
- 2. **Tithely:** Consider using the safe, secure, easy virtual method with this QR code with your smart phone. There are also buttons on our website and Facebook pages. Tithely can also set up a recurring, automatic monthly donation using one of your credit cards. There is a nominal fee with this.



What Else Can We Do?

- Support our fund raisers!
- Jump on the band wagon for the *Food Gift Coupons* available EVERY week year round!! After all, we all eat right? Why not help your church at the super market checkout line!
- Thank you to those who have already helped us with our <u>Heating Oil Campaign where you</u> <u>have contributed \$6,500.08 through May</u>. The new heating season budget will come out over the summer and we will do another 2023-2024 Heating Oil campaign. Please support this as it is a huge help!
- Speaking of your treasure, some of the most valuable must be those times that God has touched your life, an experience, an answered prayer, some unexpected blessing, maybe even an experience with an Angel! You have an opportunity to share your treasure, and very possibly make a difference in someone else's life! <u>Be willing to share your story</u>. You will see another one of our member's stories in this newsletter! **Plus**, there are stories now on the website. Please look and share with others.
- Be a 135th Anniversary Patron! We'll celebrate our 135th year in October! There will be an opportunity for everyone to make a donation toward our anniversary and then be listed in the program for that day! We asked for names from you of friends and family who have been part of

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Immanuel over the years and maybe they moved away. **Did YOU turn in names yet?** We plan to send out a BIG mailing to everyone we know, past and present members, to give us all a chance for a reunion, great fellowship and the opportunity to support Immanuel as it moves into the future. More details to come.

• **Remember our PPP loan from the pandemic**? We STILL Owe over \$6,000. and we get a bill each month for a minimum payment of \$297.59 We thank those who have continued to contribute. We could use more!

"Thank you" to all of you who give of your Time, Talents and Treasures to make it possible for Immanuel to fulfill our mission here and to continue to do so now and beyond our 135th year!

Thank you, Your Resource Committee: Jeanne Warner, Karl McClellan & Sandy Hendrick



Come Join Immanuel's Weekly Bible Study in September!

Our Virtual Bible study on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8PM is taking a well-deserved break for the summer. <u>We will return on September 12th!!</u> We started this virtual

option during the pandemic so that people can stay safe at home but also gather (remotely) to learn more about the Bible.

This provides **one of two** Bible study options at Immanuel with the other being **In Person** on Sunday mornings at 10AM. You are welcome to join either or both as we cover different topics.



The Tuesday night **Virtual Bible study** will be using selections

from the "Life Guide" Bible study series. All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we "connect". Sessions will be led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. The sessions are fun, educational and thought provoking! They provide a great way to learn more about the Bible while sharing **how Jesus shows up in our lives today!** Check our website for "connection details" & the Zoom link.

Please join us then if you can!

Our Stories



Here is the latest in our congregation's stories. It's been wonderful to learn about the presence of God in the lives of some of our members. We have read or heard a variety of stories from our fellow members. Do you have a story to share? Any little anecdote about any personal experience that has reminded you that God is present in your life and/or the life of the Immanuel Community is appropriate. Contact Pastor Lee, Karl McClellan, Colleen Kelly or Joyce Morrison to share your story with the congregation. You can write it out, prepare video (we can help you) or share it during

announcements at a worship service. It will be posted on our website and Facebook for more folks to see. Visit our website to see the stories we've already shared.

Jean Crane's Story

My name is Jean Crane, and I'm a member of the Outreach Committee. I have been a member of Immanuel's family for 54 years. Now let me put that into perspective for you: Darlene and Karl McClellan were not married yet, and now they are grandparents.

When I entered the church doors for the first time there was greeter at the top of the stairs I knew as "Bud". Bud worked at the Chester Pike bowling alley where I bowled in a league. With a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face, he asked if I lost my bowling ball. I told him I came with a friend and was just a VISITOR. At the end of the service, he spoke to me and asked me to come back.

Let me tell you about my journey with Immanuel. Sometime in the 1970's, Nancy Kelly, Sunday school Superintendent asked me to help Marie Eiserman teach Sunday school. I told Nancy that I did not think I'd would be much of an asset to Marie, but Nancy assured me Marie would show me the way. What an understatement!

And so, it went. I was asked and served on many church committees and for several years on Church Council and served on two call committees.

About two decades ago Nancy Fredrick asked me to join the Altar Guild. She advised me that the Altar linens needed to be cleaned and pressed. Once again, I said I don't know how to do that. Nancy said let me teach you.

A few years ago, Sylvia Hunsberger asked me if I would consider being a Eucharistic Minister (these are people who visit our homebound members and take them communion). I told Sylvia I'm really not qualified to do this service. But once again Sylvia assured me, I would be properly schooled and trained. I want to tell you this is the most REWARDING Service I provide for Immanuel. It gives me honor and peace to give communion for the church to our shut-ins.



Many people have paved the way and inspired me throughout my church journey.

I would like to leave you with this thought: When you see a new person entering our church, please take the time to welcome them and make them feel comfortable. Because you never know, you may just have a great influence on that person.

By the way, the person named Bud who welcomed me all those years ago, turned out to be Mr. McClellan, Karl's father. I guess it is true the apple does not fall far from the tree.

Immanuel's 135th Celebration Save the Date, October 22nd!

Can you feel it?

The spirit of God has been flowing through Immanuel Lutheran Church for 135 years!

We are holding a special service at 11:00 am followed by a celebration luncheon at the church on October 22^{nd} . There will be honored guests including our Bishop, the Reverend Patricia A. Davenport, on hand to help us commemorate this significant milestone.



We hope that you will "Save that Date" to join us! There will be much more information coming about the service, the event, the luncheon and how you can support the event including the chance to be an event Sponsor. We are asking you for names of friends & family who had been part of Immanuel over the years and are not current members or maybe they moved away. We will be sending out a BIG mailing to everyone we know, past and present, to give us all a chance to share fellowship, reminisce about the past, and support Immanuel as it moves into the future. Please jot

down the names & addresses then give to Pastor, Sylvia or Karl. There will be a special printed program for the day plus a surprise commemorative gift at the luncheon!

Look for more details in upcoming newsletters, bulletins and on our web site at <u>www.immanuelnorwood.org</u>. For questions please contact our church office.

We hope to see you there!

Your 135th Anniversary Planning Committee, Pastor Lee, Sylvia Hunsberger and Karl McClellan

Little Free Pantry

Immanuel loves our neighbors. Folks who are hungry are using our Pantry. We need to keep it filled! Please try to pick up a few extra cans or boxes when you shop for your family. If that isn't possible for you, you can provide funds for our "shoppers" to use. Just designate your gift for the Pantry.



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Happy summer from the Worship and Music Committee! We hope you are planning a get away with some time to relax BUT we are always happy to see you on Sunday morning.

You may have noticed we have changed some of the service music. The Gospel Acclamation, Kyrie, Hymn of Praise have all been rotated giving you, the congregation, different variations of worship. We would love to hear what you think-what is your favorite? What really didn't work? We truly want to hear from you. The service music has been changing to give you a positive worship experience so that you feel uplifted and ready to face the week when the service is over. We hope our selections are doing that for you.



In the Fall, we hope to go back to lay readers for the First and Second Readings-something that stopped during covid times. This will most likely start with a sign up sheet-details are still being worked out. Stay tuned for information as we get closer to September.

We encourage you to find one of us before or after service to let us know how we are doing or offer suggestions. The Worship and Music Committee consists of Pastor Lee, Kathleen Schneider, Jeanne Warner, Don Watts and Darlene McClellan, Chairperson. Summer is a time to rejuvenate whether on a beach or in your pew at Immanuel! We hope that is what we are bringing to you!



Immanuel's Heating Oil Special Giving Campaign Update

Our sincere "Thank you" to everyone who has been using our "OIL" envelopes to give extra! They are still found on the BRIGHT GREEN display in the Hospitality area (just write your envelope number on it). We started this in June 2022 and for last heating season & your generosity was a BIG help! We'll kick off a new Heating season (12 month budget) soon. Your ongoing contributions are truly appreciated!



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Thank you from your Resource Committee and your Church Council

Norwood Community Day, Saturday, September 16th

Immanuel will participate in the Community Day from 10:00 - 2:00. The Outreach Committee is **looking for volunteers** to assist us in interacting with the families that attend, including engaging children in some fun games and providing prizes. We will have shade for our table – either tree or canopy! It's fun, come join us! Contact Joyce Morrison if you would like to help (jemorrison28@gmail.com OR 610-506-5387.)



HELP YOUR CHURCH WHILE YOU EAT!!

YOU CAN SUPPORT IMMANUEL BY PURCHASING GIFT CARDS FOR ACME AND SHOPRITE!

Available in 10 - 100 denominations!!

FOR EVERY GIFT CARD WE SELL, WE GET 5% AS A DONATION TO IMMANUEL!! IT REALLY ADDS UP!!

PLEASE SEE OR CONTACT Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus TO PURCHASE GIFT CARDS. (Cash or checks are welcome!)

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Looking for a good book for the summer? Try "Imagine Heaven" by John Burke. It's about near-death experiences, God's Promises, and the exhilarating future that awaits you. Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study group will be reading this book and then discussing it in September. Please join us in reading over the summer and reviewing in the fall. Any questions, please see Jeanne Warner for more info. Have a great summer!

Property is still seeking individuals to help with maintaining the outside grounds of Immanuel. The grass growing season is here. To help with this effort typically on a weekly basis we are asking those that volunteer:

- 1. Pick up the trash,
- 2. Cut the grass in front of the church,
- 3. Cut the grass along Winona Ave side,
- 4. Trim along edges,
- 5. Blow off/swept the sidewalks.



The work takes about 2 hours to complete. Added hands, and maybe even teaming people up, could make it go faster and lighten the load.

Property continues to ask your support with the purchase/donation of paper products and cleaning supplies (paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, toilet bowl cleaner, counter cleaner, etc.) to keep our cabinets stocked. Items can be placed on the table in the cloak room. We will definitely need supplies during VBS in August so please donate items as you are able.

In all of these efforts "Many hands make for little work." Please prayerfully consider what you might be able to do to help. If you'd like more details about what is involved, and how you might be able to help, please see Fred Warner, Chairperson for the Property Committee.

Outreach Committee Backpack & Essential School Supplies Drive!



Outreach Committee is again sponsoring a school supply collection. Please drop off any new school supplies at the designated box in the hospitality area. Please place your donations there by the end of July so that we may give them to groups that are preparing backpacks to give away. Remember that school children range from Kindergarten to 12th grade! Watch for sales! Thank you for being generous.

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| | THE | Power of | PRAYER | | |
| Prayer Reque | Ca Pa Ba Flo Pa | ta Petty therine Schied t Brolly rb Calciano ossie Cora t Bonner ny Williams | Bradley Theress Sandra Don Gi | a Grace ♥ 7 a Daniels ♥ Kessler ♥ | Marie Parnell John Dettinger & Family John DeProphetis Art McClellan All affected by Cancer Peace in Ukraine |
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LOOKING AHEAD

AUGUST 2023



BIBLE ADVENTURE CLUB & ADULT BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER!

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| \$20.00 | In Memory of | In Memory of |
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| Altar Flowers: \$30.00 Contact Fran Fisher (610.586.3095) | BULLETINS | ALTAR FLOWERS |
| Prices and Ordering Information | | For Whom: |
| AND BULLETINS | ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETINS | |
| We are a RECONCILING <i>in</i> CHRIST Congregation | or or or or or or or or | IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 501 Chester Pike, Norwood, PA 19074 Phone: 610-586-5860 E-mail: Pastor.immanuel@verizon.net Secretary.immanuel@verizon.net The Rev. Scott R. Lee, Pastor Church Office Hours Monday - Friday 9:00 AM -1:00 PM Visit our website: www.immanuelnorwood.org Like/Follow us on Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norwood |