



The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

January
2025

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.”

Matthew 2:1-2

Another Christmas has come and gone. Or has it? We tend to treat Christmas Day as an ending – the huge celebration at the end of another year. But in truth, Christmas Day is just the beginning. It is the beginning of the twelve days of Christmas which are not complete until January 5th, the day before the Feast of Epiphany. It is also a new beginning for us as we welcome in a New Year and a new chance to be better, a new chance to do better.

January is not just a month to recover from the hectic holidays, it is also a busy time for the church. Although the Feast of Epiphany, the day the three wise men from the East came to honor the baby Jesus, occurs on January 6, we will celebrate it on Sunday, January 5th. Too often we overlook this important day in the church year, the day we Gentiles learned that Christ came to us, also. The next Sunday, January 12th, we celebrate the baptism of our Lord. Two of the great Festival Days of the church back-to-back.



Traditionally on Festival Days, we replace the Confession and Forgiveness at the beginning of our services with the Thanksgiving for Baptism. We also use the Nicene Creed instead of the Apostles’ Creed. Watch for these changes as you worship with us on these days. The final Sunday of the month, the 26th will be our Annual Congregational Meeting – a new beginning for Immanuel Church as we review 2024, adopt our budget for 2025, and elect our new leaders. While our revised constitution makes it easier to achieve a quorum, we still need all of our people to come guide our church home into a new year.

Speaking of a new year, are you in the habit of making New Year’s Resolutions? Do you need some suggestions? How about a resolution to come join us every Sunday? We really do miss you when you are not here. How about a resolution to help out with our Sunday services? We really are a Priesthood of all Believers. How about a resolution to serve on the church council or on one of our teams? We can always use new ideas and new faces. Blessings to you as we celebrate a New Year, a new beginning, a new rebirth!

Pastor Jacques

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

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 it is unsafe to travel, please stay home!



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



2025 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2025 are available for pick-up. If you are visiting one of our homebound members, please feel free to deliver their envelopes!

Please notify the church office when...

- ...You or a family member is hospitalized. Also, let the hospital chaplain know you would like a visit from Pastor Jacque.
- ...You have a change of address.
- ...Your phone number has changed.
- ...Your email address has changed.
- ...Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address.

Congregation Council Action from November 2024:

Recommendation approved to discontinue the copier service agreement with Consolidated Printing.

Motion approved to move the start time of Council meetings to 7:00 pm.

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.

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.



The Mission Team would like to thank everyone who helped with the Live nativity and with decorating the combined ELCA churches float on November 28th Parade of Lights.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a Christmas candle to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season.

Living Lutheran Magazine is Back!

Last year Living Lutheran magazine ceased as a print publication because of financial constraints. After concerns and conversations, Living Lutheran will return as a quarterly print publication. If you are interested in receiving a subscription, please contact the church office at (785) 825-4750.

Wired Word Adult Bible Study Sundays at 11:00 am



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

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 treats 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.



Wednesday, January 8

5:30 pm Gathering & Dinner

6:00 pm Messy Activities

All ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts, singing, and Biblical storytelling. *Please note that this month we will gather on the 2nd Wednesday.

Altar Guild

Wednesday, Jan 8 at 3:00 pm

Take down decorations

Wednesday, Jan 15 at 5:15 pm

Immanuel Altar Guild resumes January 15, 2025, at 5:15pm in the upstairs conference room. January brings new Committee assignments and Elections. We welcome present members along with any interested new members.

Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Monday, January 20 at 1:30 pm

Join us for our monthly meeting and Bible study.

Mindy will be out of the office January 23-26.
Thanks to Carol Ann Sloo for covering the office!

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 26

10:30 am



All are welcome to this celebration of our 2024 ministries! The meeting will immediately follow worship in the sanctuary. Please review the enclosed proposed budget.

Summer Camp Registration Open



All Immanuel students receive a scholarship for half of the Early Bird price at Camp Tomah Shinga. For more information about camp visit camptomahshinga.com. For more information about Immanuel's scholarship, contact Mindy Tillberg at (785) 825-4750.

February Worship Volunteers *(as of 12/20/24)*

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
Greeter				
Usher				
iPad				
Acolyte				
Cantor				
Assisting Minister				
Lector				
Children's Sermon				
Communion Assistant				
Altar Guild Communion Care				
Fellowship Hosts				

JANUARY Worship Volunteers *(as of 12/20/24)*

	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26
Greeter				
Usher				
iPad				
Acolyte				
Cantor	Henry Diehl		Henry Diehl	
Assisting Minister	Henry Diehl		Henry Diehl	
Lector				
Children's Sermon	Liz Diehl			Liz Diehl
Communion Assistant				
Altar Guild Communion Care	Kathy Herron	Alisha Cooper	Kathy Herron	
Fellowship Hosts				