



Notes from Nancy



"Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You must also be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near."

James 5: 7-8

We wait.....and wait.....and wait. One of the most frustrating things in modern society it would seem is to have to wait for anything. We wait in line at the grocery store, in restaurants, at doctor's offices, in hospital rooms and to hear a real voice on the other end of the line.

If waiting is so hard why does the church have an entire season of waiting, this season of Advent? What are we waiting for?

Advent is a season of hope. Advent is a time to remember God's love for us, a love so deep He sent His Son into this chaotic world, to proclaim God's grace and forgiveness to all who believe.

We wait not only to celebrate the birth of Jesus but we continue to wait for the coming again of God among us at the end of days.

And so we wait and prepare not as the world prepares but with joyful expectation and hope. Our preparations include acts of service and discipleship that are a witness to the world of God's promise to come again.

Christmas is all around us, in the music, the parties, the stores, the rushing and the chaos. Soon it will be over and all packed away.

But for Christians, our Advent waiting goes on. Our Advent hope lives on. Be alert! Rejoice! For His coming is certain.



*Our wish for you is that God will surround you with His love,
And that you will have joy, peace, and hope this season.
May you have a blessed Christmas.
In His Service, Nancy and Bob*

Our Office Manager, Gloria Tillberg, will be retiring on December 31. To thank her for her many years of faithful service, we are having a card shower for her during the month of December. Cards may be mailed to the church or left in the basket on Sunday morning. Thank you, Gloria!



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



Christmas Candles

Instead of poinsettias, Altar Guild will be selling candles to decorate the sanctuary this holiday season. Order forms are attached.

Gifts of Love

How can you make this the happiest Christmas of your life? Simply by trying to give yourself to others. Put something of yourself into everything you give. A gift, however small, speaks its own language. And when it tells of the love of the giver, it is truly blessed.



—Norman Vincent Peale

2021 Offering Envelopes



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

Year End Reports

As 2020 comes to an end, Ministry Team chairs and organizations need to submit year-end written reports to Mindy Tillberg by December 31. Financial reports are due ASAP.

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 the roads are not safe to travel on, please stay home!



Congregation Council Action from October 2020:

Approved to restart serving Holy Communion on November 1 using individually packaged wafer and wine.

Approved purchase of desktop computer, keyboard and mouse for pastor's office.

Approved 2021 proposed budget that will be recommended for congregational approval.



Midweek Advent Worship

December 2, 9, 16, 23

During these troubled and unsettled times our theme for Advent will be a series which focuses on the divine gifts that come down to us through the birth of Jesus: The Gift of Hope, The Gift of Love, The Gift of Peace, The Gift of Life. Each week the sermon will “unwrap” one of the precious treasures delivered to us in the holy child wrapped in swaddling clothes.

Christmas Eve Worship

7:00pm & 9:00pm

Join us for candlelight worship with Holy Communion.



Christmas Eve



Altar Guild

Wednesday, Dec 3 at 3:00pm

Decorate for Advent & Christmas.

Wednesday, Jan 6 at 3:00pm

Take down decorations

Wednesday, Jan 20 at 3:00pm

Monthly meeting

End of the Year Giving



Thank you for financially partnering with us this year as we have sought to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community and beyond! We are so grateful for your support in what God is doing in and through Immanuel.

Although the year is quickly drawing to a close, our financial needs remain significant. As of November 3, we are \$16,642.51 short of funds. We ask that you prayerfully consider the ministry of Immanuel in your end-of-giving decisions. With your generosity, we can eliminate our debt and begin 2021 with a solid foundation for our continued ministry of sharing God's love with others!

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to mindy@immanuelosalina.org

Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

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2020 Candle Order Form

Please place my order for _____ candle/s. The price is \$10 each. Payment must accompany each order.

Make checks payable to "Immanuel Altar Guild".

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Candles given:

_____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

Candles may be picked up any time after the late service on Christmas Eve. You are responsible for picking up your candles. Candles must be picked up no later than December 31.

DEADLINE for ordering is Wednesday, December 9.

Thank you for beautifying our altar!

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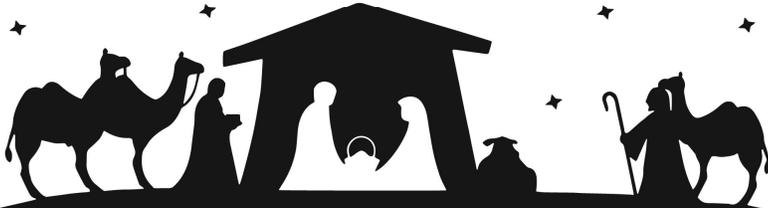
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Puzzle!

Use the code to complete Isaiah's prophecy about Jesus, our Savior.



CODE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q

10 23 13 17 14 6 18 21 21

11 14 12 10 21 21 14 13

6 24 23 13 14 1 15 4 21

12 24 4 23 2 14 21 24 1 ,

22 18 16 17 3 8 16 24 13 ,

14 5 14 1 21 10 2 3 18 23 16

15 10 3 17 14 1 , 25 1 18 23 12 14

24 15 25 14 10 12 14 .

I S A I A H 9 : 6 , N I V

Answer: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6, NIV

LET IT snow!

Create a winter wonderland with this fun craft.



What you need:

- Glass jar with lid but no label
- Laminated photo (that will fit in the jar)
- Small plastic Christmas trinkets
- Hot or waterproof glue
- Container with spout
- 1 cup distilled water
- 3 tsp. glycerin
- Glitter



What you do:

1. Unscrew lid and flip jar upside down. Glue the photo and trinkets to the inside of the lid, standing upright.
2. In a container, mix water and glycerin. Pour the mixture into the jar, leaving space at the top.
3. Spoon in some glitter.
4. When glue is dry, attach the decorated lid tightly. Shake the jar to see "snow" swirl and settle.