



The Messenger

December
2021

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



Notes from Nancy



"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Mark 1: 1-3

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 God 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



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

Christmas Candles

Altar Guild is selling candles to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season. Cost is \$10 per candle. Order forms are attached.



2022 Offering Envelopes



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

Year End Reports

As 2021 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 as soon as possible.

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 2021:

Approved letters to be mailed to congregation regarding church finances.

Approved 2022 Proposed Budget to present to congregation.

Approved changes to Child Protection Policy to reflect that Safe Gatherings securely holds our files for us.

Approved church office closures for Fridays for the rest of the year and on Nov 23-24 and De 23-31.

Gary Arpin will be the contact person for the sale of the parsonage.

Transition Team Update

The Transition Team has continued its work. From the congregational meetings held in October, it was evident that another meeting was needed to allow members more time to express their views and for the Transition Team to get more details on information for the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). This workshop meeting was held on Sunday, November 7th. The Transition Team served breakfast which was followed by a brief worship service. The workshop meeting then began. Members were asked to identify and discuss the challenges and opportunities to the following topics: Loss of Identify, Blending with Another Congregation, Having One Service, Supporting the Homeless, Leadership in our Church, Supporting Youth and Family, and Sustainability. There was excellent discussion and leadership from the congregation during the workshop. As a congregation, in summary, we want to maintain our strong Lutheran heritage, we are open to sharing a pastor, the council took it under consideration to consider a trial period of one service, we strongly wish to support youth and family, each other, and the homeless, we would like a strong leader in our future pastor and are willing to do the work he/she would put before us, and we realize we can only afford a part time pastor. In order of importance to our congregation, The Top 5 Gifts for Ministry our congregation identified for our future pastor were: 1. Bring joy and good humor to relationships, 2. Help people develop their spiritual life, 3. Be effective in working with youth, 4. Be an effective communicator, and 5. Be able to share leadership and work in a team. The Top 5 Ministry Task identified were: 1. Preaching/Worship, 2. Pastoral Care and Visitation, 3. Youth and Family Ministry, 4. Building a Sense of Community, and 5. Ministry in Daily Life. The Transition Team is continuing to work on the MSP and will have it submitted to the Council by December 1st. This will complete the formal work of the Transition Team. We appreciate the congregation's participation in this new process. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Karla Arpin, Zoe Greenmeyer & Emily Komarek



The church office will be closed:
On Fridays and December 23-31

Youth Group (6th -12th graders)
 watch for more information about our
 Salvation Army Angel shopping and
 Christmas Party!



End of Year Giving

Thank you for financially partnering with us this year as we have sought to be the hands and feet of God 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 October 27, we are \$23,996.22 short of funds. We ask that you prayerfully consider the ministry of Immanuel in your end of the year giving decisions. With your generosity, we can eliminate our debt and begin 2022 with a solid foundation for our continued ministry of sharing God's love with others.

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 Nancy.
- ...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.

THANK YOU!
 THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who sent cards and made phone calls on my 95th birthday. Also to my family for the good meals. I really enjoyed it all. *Rosella Cline*

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards and money for the Bethany Home Residents Christmas gifts. Your generosity helped us raise \$210. *Welca*



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:

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Comfort And Joy

Sunday Advent Worship Series

During these troubled and unsettled times, sense the true comfort and joy that Christ brings this Advent season with the Comfort And Joy weekly Advent series for traditional worship. Each week in this series written by well-known pastor Rev. Tim Klinkenberg, parishioners will find out about different types of comfort Christ comes to bring (revealed in Isaiah 40) and experience the resulting joy that



Midweek Advent Worship

December 1, 8, 15, 22
12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

Please join us each Wednesday for Holden Evening Prayer.



Altar Guild

Wednesday, Dec 1

3:00 pm

Decorate for Advent & Christmas.

Wednesday, Jan 5

3:00 pm

Take down Christmas decorations

Wednesday, Jan 19 at 5:15 pm

Monthly meeting. Come join us!

New members are welcome.



of the
Women ELCA

Thursday, December 9 at 1:00 pm

Dutch Lunch at Martinelli's

Reservations due by December 6. Call Ellen Vaupel
 (785) 827-1375 or Monica Davis (785) 577-1616.

Confirmation Class will meet December 22 from 12:45-2:45 pm. Lunch is provided.

Christmas Eve Worship

7:00 pm & 9:00 pm

Join us for candlelight worship with Holy Communion.

