



The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

January 2023

Pastor Gaeque

#### **Come and Follow Me**

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

ELW 798 Will You Come and Follow Me

It is so good to be back home at Immanuel after my two-week pilgrimage through the Holy Land. As one of my fellow travelers said, "Visiting the Holy Land turns the Bible from black and white to color." But one does not have to travel halfway around the world to be on a pilgrimage. We are each on a faith journey that began with our baptism (or even before) and is not completed until we are called home to our Lord. The Holy Land is covered in stones and I often wondered what stories those rocks could tell. But we are the living stones on which Christ has built the church. And each of our journeys is a unique and amazing story.

It seems that we have just completed our Christmas journey, celebrating the coming of the light into this dark world. But already we are heading to Ash Wednesday and the days of lamenting known as Lent as we begin a new journey. A journey to the cross, the crucifixion, and the resurrection that is the cornerstone of our faith as Easter people. These few short weeks between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday are a time for us to rest on our journey and reflect upon what our faith means to us.

Yesterday I learned of the sudden death of my beloved brother-in-law. At my age and in my profession death comes along all too frequently. Although one can never be prepared for the passing of a loved one, I have noted the ones who are most prepared are the ones who know their loved one's faith stories. Have you shared the story of your faith journey with your loved ones yet? That journey is your own personal Gospel story given to you by God. And as hard as it may be to put into words, as vulnerable as it may feel to share it, that is exactly what Christ calls us to do when we follow Him. It is the greatest legacy we can leave for those we love.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known?

Carry the cross and follow me. Luke 14:27, NRSV

Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ; Love

# WAYS YOU CAN SERVE AT CHURCH:



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.

<u>Evangelism</u>: Explores and implements various ideas for sharing the Gospel.

Finance: Manages the finances of the church.

<u>Memorials</u>: Oversees the donations that have been given as a memorial.

Missions: Plans various mission events.

<u>Property</u>: Oversees the care of the building and property.

<u>Stewardship</u>: 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.

<u>Youth & Education</u>: Guides the youth & education opportunities.



Thank you

I want to extend our sincere gratitude for your gift of \$168 that will support our efforts to provide for the needs of those experiencing food insecurity and financial instability. (*Thanksgiving Eve offering*)

> Karen Couch, Executive Director Salina Emergency Aid Food Bank



Worship is a vital part of our ministry! Please consider the ways you can share your gifts in worship.

Greeter ~ Welcomes worshippers.

<u>Usher</u> ~ Hands out bulletins, collects offering, directs worshippers to the communion rail.

<u>iPad</u> ~ Starts and ends the Facebook livestream.

<u>Acolyte</u> ~ Lights the candles.

<u>Cantor</u> ~ Song leader for the liturgy.

<u>Assisting Minister</u>  $\sim$  Reads all the prayers and the dismissal.

Lector ~ Reads the lessons.

<u>Children's Sermon</u> ~ Prepares and leads the children's sermon.

<u>Communion Assistant</u> ~ Serves the wine during communion.

<u>Fellowship Hour Host</u> ~ Prepares and serves coffee and treat following worship.

<u>Altar Guild</u> ~ 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.

#### 2023 Flower Chart

Altar flowers may be placed in memory or honor of someone or occasion. Cost is \$20. A special bouquet may also be placed in memory or honor of someone or occasion. It is your responsibility to purchase and have the arrangement delivered by noon on Friday. Please sign up on the chart in the narthex.

We're so accustomed to hearing the Bible's "love chapter," 1 Corinthians 13, at weddings and other occasions that we may not really hear its meaning anymore. It can help to listen to something familiar said in different words. What new understandings of love does this paraphrase from *The Message* Bible reveal to you?

"Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always 'me first,' doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end. Love never dies."



(1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, MSG).



#### Winter Weather

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!

# Women's Bible Study

Immanuel, St John, and Redeemer women are invited to participate in a combined women's Bible study which meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 1:00pm. This month the group will meeting February 9 & February 23, location TBD. To RSVP or for more information, contact Anna Prockish, call/text (785) 212-0685 or email aprock7778@gmail.com.

#### Summer Camp at Tomah Shinga **Registration is open!**

#### https://camptomahshinga.com/summer-camp

Immanuel pays half of the Early Bird cost for our students to attend camp. Early Bird registration ends April 1, 2023.

PLEASE let Mindy know if you:

- register for camp (so the church can pay its share).
- need additional financial assistance. •
- are a current 6th & 7th grader who should attend Confirmation Camp June 18-23.

#### **Congregation Council Action** December 2022:

Approved motion to move up to \$9,700 to cover any deficit at the end of the year.

2023 officers were elected and ministry team assignments were made.

Approved motion to hold congregational meeting on January 29, 2023 in the sanctuary immediately following worship.

#### 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           |                                 |
| Jacque Thornton, Pastor | pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org |
| Mindy Tillberg, Deacon  | office@immanuelsalina.org       |



Join us for our monthly meeting and Bible study.



# Wednesday, Feb 8 5:30-7:30pm

Join us at Messy Church where all ages are invited to get messy

together through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Pizza dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm, activities begin at 6:00 pm.

#### **Flower Delivery Volunteers**

Volunteers and vehicles are needed to deliver Valentine's Day flowers on February 13-14 for the Dillon's store on Cloud. If you would like to help, please contact Mindy Tillberg. Monies raised will be used for youth events.





**Altar Guild** Wednesday, Feb 15 at 5:15 pm Monthly meeting

### Ash Wednesday \* February 22 12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

Join us as we begin the Lenten season with the Imposition of Ashes.

6th-12th graders: Watch for more info from Mindy about combined youth group events with Redeemer & St John's!



# **Office Update**

February 1-6 ~ Mindy is out of the office.

February 9 ~ Immanuel is hosting a Synod Professional Development workshop all day.

February 13 & 14 ~ The church office will be closed for the Dillon's floral delivery fundraiser.

#### **Mark Your Calendars**

| March 12 | Daylight Savings begins |
|----------|-------------------------|
| April 2  | Palm Sunday             |
| April 6  | Maundy Thursday         |
| April 7  | Good Friday             |
| April 9  | Easter Sunday           |

|                         | February 5          | February 12 | February 19      | February 26 |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| Greeter                 | Emily & Jim Komarek |             |                  |             |
| Usher                   |                     | Tom Davis   |                  |             |
| iPad                    |                     |             |                  |             |
| Acolyte                 | Emma Greenemeyer    | Ty Tillberg | Emma Greenemeyer | Ty Tillberg |
| Cantor                  |                     |             |                  |             |
| Assisting<br>Minister   | Liz Diehl           |             |                  |             |
| Lector                  | Emily Komarek       | Kathy Yosai | Jeri Clouston    | Tom Davis   |
| Children's<br>Sermon    |                     | Liz Diehl   |                  |             |
| Communion<br>Assistant  |                     |             |                  |             |
| Altar Guild<br>Set-up   |                     |             |                  |             |
| Altar Guild<br>Clean-up |                     |             |                  |             |
| Fellowship<br>Hosts     |                     |             |                  |             |

# February Worship Volunteers as of 01/20/2023

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