

The Messeng

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever." Psalm 23:6

As we look to a new year, I truly do believe that God has wonderful surprises and plans for our congregation as we move into 2021 remembering that...."with God all things are possible."

"A star shines over Bethlehem in Judea. It is amazing how often little towns play big roles in history. Some of the world's most famous people have come from the smallest of places. We should not be surprised that a star leads us to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, a dot on the map. God continually uses the small places and ordinary people of this world to accomplish great purposes. A tiny baby is born in a little town. This child is the hope of the world! Who knows, maybe God can even use ordinary people in little towns like you and me." Pr. Gary Anderson, Luther Seminary

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THANK YOU FROM THE MITCHELLS

A very big thank you to all the people who helped to make this Christmas season so special. I so appreciate everyone's willingness to serve and be flexible, patient and understanding in these uncertain and unusual times.

Special thanks to everyone for your very generous gifts and delicious goodies. We also thank you for your warm welcome, prayers, support and friendship and we look forward to serving together as we continue to serve our Lord.

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In His Service, Bob and Nancy

January 2021



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the January Congregational Meeting has been cancelled.

Organizational reports will be assembled and emailed to members by the first week of February. Hard copies will be available for pick-up or can be mailed upon request. To request a copy to be mailed, please contact Mindy Tillberg.

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

2021 Congregational Council



Congratulations to our newly elected members and officers (new members are noted with an *)! **Installation of Council members is on January 10, 2021 at both services.**

President: Eugene Tillberg Vice-President: Jeri Clouston Secretary: Mike Tillberg Treasurer: Gary Arpin

Alex Bacon* - Worship & Music, Property, Parsonage Jeri Clouston - Worship & Music Alisha Cooper * - Youth & Education Dorothy Hanna* - Missions, Evangelism Greg Hubbard - Property John Swisher - Property, Parsonage Eugene Tillberg - Finance Mike Tillberg - Worship & Music, Memorials

Winter Weather

As we enter the season of winter weather advisories, please know that any can-



cellations of church activities will be posted on the congregational Facebook group (private) and page (public), <u>KSAL.com</u> 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!

2020 Financial Reports

are due in the office as soon as possible!

Congregation Council Action <u>from November 2020:</u>

Discussed the gifts and skills needed for the Transition Team. Gary Arpin is contacting potential members.

Denied request for an non-member group to use the Fellowship Hall in December.

Approved request for member usage of the Fellowship Hall in January.

Mindy Tillberg accepted the proposed changes to her position as Deacon to include office manager duties.

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.

Ministry Teams

Ministry Teams are the groups of volunteers that give life to our congrega-



tion! They are most effective when many people participate on them. If you have an interest, or passion, or simply want to help in any of these areas, please attend a meeting or contact a Council member serving on that team (see list on left).

<u>Evangelism</u>: 2nd Tuesday at 2:30pm. Explores and implements various ideas for sharing the Gospel.

<u>Finance</u>: 1st Monday at 7pm. Deals with the finances of Immanuel.

<u>Memorials</u>: Meets as needed. Manages the donations that has been given as a memorial.

<u>Missions</u>: 1st Wednesday at 7pm. Plans various mission events throughout the year.

<u>Property</u>: 1st Thursday at 6:30pm. Oversees the care of the building, property, and parsonage.

<u>Stewardship</u>: 1st Wednesday at 6pm. Lifts up ways of giving our whole self (time, talent & resources) as an offering to God.

<u>Worship and Music</u>: 1st Tuesday at 5:30pm. Selects hymns and plans worship services.

<u>Youth & Education</u>: 1st Sunday at 10am. Guides the youth & education opportunities.



Flower Delivery

Volunteers and vehicles are needed to deliver Valentine's Day flowers for the Dillon's store on Cloud. COVID protocols will be followed. If you would like to help, please contact Mindy Tillberg. Monies raised will be used for youth events. Dear Disciples in Christ:

The year of 2020 is quickly approaching the end. We pray that the year 2021 will be good for everyone. Despite COVID-19, our members have been sharing the good news of Christ through numerous activities, many behind the scenes. Thank you for all that you are doing. We pray that our efforts will continue to build and will have a lasting impact on the community we serve.



The financial results through November 30, 2020, are \$167,699 of revenue and \$185,151 of expenses for a deficit of \$17,452. Your help in reducing this deficit by December 31st will be appreciated. Checks can be dropped in the offering basket at church, mailed to the church at 255 S. 7th, Salina, KS 67401, or dropped off to the church office during our normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).

If you have any questions, please contact the treasurer, Gary Arpin. Thank you in advance and God bless!

**Note from Internal Revenue Service: The 2020 CARES Act will allow individuals who do not itemize to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 (on their 2020 income tax return) if made before December 31, 2020.



We are looking for 3-4 volunteers to get trained in the usage of the iPad for church usage and church functions. If you would like to help, please contact Mike Tillberg.

Thank you to the work of the Evangelism and Youth & Education Teams! The Evangelism Team delivered 120 bags to houses near the church. The bags contained Christmas activities for children and an invitation to worship. The Youth & Education Team mailed similar resources to our young families.





Online Book Club

Even though we cannot gather face-to-face, we are excited to overcome the physical distance by using Zoom technology to foster connection and community! If

you like to read and discuss what you have read, this group is for you! Contact Emily Komarek for more information or to sign up.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to <u>mindy@immanuelsalina.org</u> Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

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Church office
Nancy Mitchell, Synod Authorized Ministernancy@immanuelsalina.org
Mindy Tillberg, Deaconmindy@immanuelsalina.org
Erica Arb, Preschoolhappyhearts@immanuelsalina.org



Altar Guild

Wednesday, Jan 6 at 3:00pm Take down decorations Wednesday, Jan 20 at 3:00pm Monthly meeting

Elizabeth Group

Elizabeth Group will meet by Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20. For more info contact Corlene Lange.



2021 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2021 are available for pick-up in the narthex. Help is needed to deliver (no contact, porch drop) envelopes that have not been picked up yet.



I want to thank everyone for the cards and gifts I have received for my retirement. Your sentiments of gratitude have meant a lot to me. I am looking forward to retirement and Gordon and I hope to do some traveling. Thanks again and I will miss you all. *Gloria Tillberg*

Thank you for the cards, gifts, and kind words for my birthday and during the holidays. Your thoughtfulness is a blessing to me and my family.

Mindy Tillberg

Thank you to the musicians who provided music during the Advent and Christmas seasons. The sharing of your gifts has been a blessing to us all!