



Notes from Nancy



*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
Matt. 28:19*

GO. The word occurs 1,165 times in the Bible.

God's leaders do a lot of going. Abraham was roused out of his comfortable home and told to go to a new country. The disciples, perhaps contentedly following Jesus, were told to go to every town and village and preach the coming of the kingdom. Gathered with Jesus after the resurrection, Jesus' followers were told to go to all and preach and teach "everything." And the women at the empty tomb were told to go and tell.

We are still sent. We are still told to go. If we look at our congregation and we seem to be "dead in the water" certainly the message of God is GO. And if we look at our lives and see not much happening, a kind of drift or sameness to it all, surely God's message to us is go.

When we go, things happen. We move into what God has ready for us. We engage the spirit as guide. We climb out of old ruts and move down new paths. We cause change. We break into our future.

Sometimes God's word to us seems complex. Sometimes it seems difficult to discern God's will. Sometimes we wander and wonder. But this message is simple and clear:

GO!" Go and tell.....Go and teach.....GO!

Jesus said and continues to say, "You did not choose me but I chose you...." John 15:16 As chosen ones, we go.



Lord, send the wind and fire of your Spirit to move us into the future you have set for us. Fill our hearts with a desire to go, our ears with the call to go, and our feet with the need to go and reach and teach each one. In the name of the One who was willing to go to the cross for us. Amen

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

Transition Team Update

The Transition Team attended the Kansas Leadership Conference (KLC) class, *Your Leadership Edge*, on June 2-3. The class focuses on a leadership philosophy of anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere. The philosophy is to educate people to help energize others so that everyone in an organization can lead with their gifts towards a common goal. The Transition Team will be using what we learned to help us create the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) that will be used by the Call Committee to assist in calling a Pastor to Immanuel. On June 9, the Transition Team had a debriefing meeting with Pastor Dave Whetter (Synod office) and D.J. Whetter (KLC) to discuss development of our MSP. This meeting was one of many meetings we will have with them.

On June 15, our team received the results of our Congregational Vitality Surveys. The Congregational Vitality Index measures the strengths and challenges of a congregation according to three dimensions: the congregation's connections with God, with each other and with the world. As soon as possible, the Transition Team will be meeting in person with various church committees and groups, inclusive of our youth, to get face-to-face feedback directly from each of you. These meetings are to help expand upon the information received from the Congregational Vitality Surveys, as questions on a questionnaire cannot possibly cover all areas that need to be considered in such an important task of calling a Pastor. In addition to the face-to-face meetings, **the Transition Team will be hosting fellowship time between services on Sunday, June 11th, from 9:40-10:40 a.m. Please plan to attend!** The Transition Team wants and needs your opinions and thoughts. All information, data, and discussions will be incorporated into our MSP. Your participation and your voice will help us gather the most accurate input about the needs of our congregation and will assist us in moving forward in our congregational mission.

Karla Arpin, transition team member



"Faith sees the invisible,
believes the incredible
and receives the impossible."

Corrie ten Boom



The earth is the
LORD's, and everything
in it, the world and all
who live in it ...

Psalm 24:1, NIV

"THOUGHTS TO PONDER" ABUNDANT GIVING

Stewardship is an expression of faith. When we practice stewardship, we recognize God as the origin of life, the source of all we have, all we are, and all we will become. "The earth is the Lord's," the psalmist says, "and everything in it,

the world, all who live in it," Psalm 24:1

As men and women of faith, we are pilgrims on a journey, caretakers of the gifts God gives us.

Today the challenge of responsible stewardship is very real. We live in a culture of "isms" – powerful and destructive – materialism, individualism, relativism, and consumerism. We are often forced to live our faith in world that worships only secular gods.

Stewardship means accepting God's gifts gratefully, tending them responsibly, and sharing them in justice and love. The gifts and talents you have been given do not belong to you. You have them on loan – in trust – to make what you can of them for the betterment of



Leadership Retreat Saturday, July 24 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Immanuel and St. John's Councils and Transition Teams will gather at Camp Tomah Shinga for day of leadership activities.

Sunday Morning Fellowship Hour, from 9:30-10:30 am, will resume on July 4. If you would like to furnish cookies, donuts or your specialty, please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen.



Thank You

Thank you for the coffee mug, key chain and palm cross you gave me for my affirmation of baptism. Your support and kindness have helped me grow in my faith.

Jake Tillberg

Hot Times, Fun in the City

Sunday, August 22

4:00-7:00 pm.

Activities will include car show, hot wheel races, food by donation and cake walk. Proceeds will benefit Sunflower Adult Day Services and Lutheran World Relief. Volunteers are needed, please see Terry Oehmke or Connie Beisner if you can help.



Love, Live, Serve Like Jesus

July 20 * 9am-Noon

All 1st through 12th grade students are invited to a morning of learning and service as we join St John's in serving at the Love, Chloe Foundation. We will gather at St John's and walk to the Love, Chloe offices. Watch for more information!



Worship Update

The Congregational Council approved the recommendation of the Worship & Music Team to resume worship with no restrictions. Masks and physical distancing are

not expected. Singing will resume. Hymnals and Bibles have been returned to the pews.

Holy Communion will continue to be served with prepackaged communion elements and worshippers remaining seated while communing. We will return to the altar for communion after the Altar Guild and Worship & Music Team have had time to plan and prepare.

Congregation Council Action

from May 2021:

No minutes have been received for the May 2021 meeting.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to mindy@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
Nancy Mitchell, Synod Authorized Minister....nancy@immanuelsalina.org
Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....mindy@immanuelsalina.org

Pastor Amy Truhe, a former member of Immanuel, is embarking on a very unique adventure from June 18 to July 14, 2021! The Mennonite Mission Network (MMN) has invited her to go to South Africa and assist other leaders in being present with a variety of people in different capacities as a person trained in listening and mediation practices. Pastor Amy is looking forward to the variety of places she will visit with the hope of learning more about apartheid and its aftermath in a very up-close manner. The ramifications of systemic oppression have a lingering legacy. She hopes to be part of pockets of insight and new learning that will open new ways of working across unnamed boundaries. It is exciting to be invited to share what she knows and discover why it might be important to the ministry we share globally.



The trip will take her around the entire country and into Botswana as they work with Anabaptist pastors and church leaders who are seeking to alleviate violence around upcoming elections. Traveling primarily by vehicle, staying in Air BNB's, they will also work with women and families affected by gang violence. These will fill the days with profound conversations and, hopefully, helpful insights, worship and seeking where God is at work.

Your prayers are coveted for this travel. With COVID concerns, being in a country where English is primary alongside 10 other official languages, working with people dealing with passionate and intense emotional situations, and navigating a theology that has some variances, Pastor Amy will definitely need the guidance of the Holy Spirit!

Thank you for any consideration you give to supporting this trip with your finances and your prayers. Pastor Amy truly appreciates that God has offered her this time and she prays that it serves her call to Messiah Lutheran and Bethany College equally well as she grows through the experience.

Donations may be sent to: Pastor Amy Truhe, Messiah/Bethany College, 402 N. 1st Street, Lindsborg, KS 67456.

