

# The Messenger

**July 2022** 

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



"I therefore, a prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the spirit, in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4: 1-6

#### Dear Friends,

We have come to the end of our journey together. It has been an interesting and fulfilling time, to say the least. We began our time together in 2019 with Covid-19 very much in the forefront affecting every aspect of our lives including: worshiping together, visiting the home-bound and hospitals, activities, fellowship, celebrations of birth and death. Together we have learned that we can change and try new things. For some, those changes have been hard and disconcerting and for others it has been easy and energizing.

As Immanuel moves into the future, there will continue to be changes, challenges and opportunities to grow, but God is able to do more that we can even begin to imagine. The point of following God is not to arrive at a place we choose. The point is to follow and to know that we find our identity in who it is that we follow.

God's call to trust is risky and scary because we don't know precisely where the Lord is leading Immanuel Lutheran and you may have to learn to live more comfortably with that uncertainty as you discern the future.

In our journey of faith - where we are always on the move - in a world where God cannot be boxed in or nailed down - where things always seem in flux - we can trust in the promise that God will be with us always. So go, take the risks, be strong, be courageous, be bold, move into God's future and be prepared to be surprised and transformed by your encounter with the Holy One!! May the Lord bless each of you richly and abundantly. \* \* \* \* \*

My deepest thanks to each of you for your prayers, support, hugs, and surprise gifts. Thank you for your willingness to share gifts of music, lector, cantor, altar guild, communion assistant, usher, acolyte, fellowship, dinners and all the other ways you have helped. I especially thank the Church Council, Deacon Mindy, the transition team and the call committee for all their hard work and patience.

Bob and I have appreciated your welcome and we will miss you. Love you all!

Nancy and Bob

#### Nancy's Farewell Reception Sunday, June 26



Immediately following worship on June 26, there will be farewell brunch and card shower for Nancy. Her support, guidance and encouragement during Immanuel's interim is deeply appreciated. Thank you Nancy for your leadership!

#### **Pastoral Care Update**

In the absence of a called pastor, Pastor Del Strecker will serve as our on-call pastor for emergencies (hospitalizations, funerals, etc). He is currently serving as part-time interim at St John's Lutheran Church. Pastor Del may be reached by calling St John's (785) 825-5081 or his cellphone (785) 822-4355.

## Congregation Council Action from April & May 2022:

Motion approved to return to the rail for communion.

Motion approved to remain with one worship service on Sunday mornings.

Recommendation approved to transfer proceeds of the sale of the parsonage to the Foundation for future clergy housing needs.

Recommendation approved to discontinue Salina Journal advertising.



Thank you for allowing me to represent you in the sale of the parsonage! I really can't tell you what a great blessing that Eugene Tillberg, Terry Oehmke, and Gary Arpin have been. They represent your church well! I count it an honor to have met them. Jody Herwig, Realtor, Coldwell Banker

Thanks to your generous donations, we raised \$995 during the month of May for Project Salina!

Thank you for your participation in "Hearts of Hope". Almost 1,000 hand-made small hearts were shared with employees of Salina Presbyterian Manor and other facilities! *Mary Bridges, former Chaplain at Salina Presbyterian (now at Salina Hospice)* 

#### **Pulpit Supply**

During our pastoral vacancy, the Worship & Music Team is working diligently to the fill the pulpit each Sunday. The limited number of pulpit supply pastors are in high demand and very hard to schedule.



If you know someone, lay or ordained, who might be willing to preach or share their faith story, please contact the church office. Thank you for patience!

Please note that if we do not have a pastor ordained in Word & Sacrament leading worship, Holy Communion will not be served.



The Call Committee received a candidate for our pastor position. The first interview has taken place. A second interview, including Immanuel staff members, is being planned.

After the second interview, if the candidate feels like a good fit for our congregation, the Call Committee would bring their name to the Council. The Council would vote on recommending the candidate to the congregation. If the Council approves the candidate, a congregational meet & greet would be scheduled.

For a detailed description of the call process, please see the Call Committee bulletin board at church.

Please note that at any point in the process, the candidate or the congregation may decline and remove the candidate from consideration. Then the process would begin again.

As always, the Call Committee asks for your prayers during the call process.



The Parsonage was sold and closing was on May 31, 2022. An offer of \$325,00 was accepted by our negotiation team consisting of Eugene Tillberg, Gary Arpin, and Terry Oehmke.

After closing costs and realtor fees, over \$307,000 was placed in the Foundation. This money will be used to help our future clergy finance their homes at a low/no interest rate. Thank you to our negotiation team and ALL the volunteers who helped prepare the parsonage for sale!



As of 5/30/2022: Income \$64,590.73 Expenses \$88,840.67 Deficit \$24,249.94

As we continue through this hot summer season, our utility bills will be higher. We ask for your prayerful consideration of giving so we can cover our expenses and eliminate our deficit.

The thermostats at church are currently set at 75°. As outside temperatures rise, thermostats may need to be raised to help control utility costs. The Property Team is keeping a close watch on the AC system. If you have



any questions or concerns about the temperature in the building, please contact Bob Buster or John Swisher.



Immanuel members are invited to help supply the Blessing Box at St John's Lutheran Church. The Blessing Box is a free food pantry that allows users to get help anonymously. Persons can take what they need and also donate items, "Take what you need. Give what you can." There

are several Blessing Boxes located throughout Salina but the box at St. John's is the only one in the downtown area.

Please keep in mind the blessing box is outside and so items should be able to withstand extreme weather. <u>Items in glass jars will not be accepted.</u>

#### Items needed are:

Pasta, rice, cereal, oatmeal
Canned goods (fruit, veggies, jelly, meat, coffee)
Bread, buns, bagels, English muffins, etc.
Mac and Cheese (boxed or microwave containers)
Boxed dinners (Hamburger Helper, etc.)
Personal hygiene products (band aids, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, toilet paper)
Peanut butter (no glass jars)
Cookies, Crackers, Chips, Tea, juice

#### Do you have an article for the Messenger?

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

#### **CONTACT US:**

255 S. 7th St	Salina, KS 67401
Church office	(785) 825-4750
Mindy Tillberg, Deacon	mindy@immanuelsalina.org

#### Wednesday, July 6 5:30-7:30pm

5:30 pm Gathering & Dinner 6:00 pm Messy Activities 7:15 pm Worship



Join us at Messy Church this month! All ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm, activities will begin at 6:00 pm, and worship will be done by 7:30 pm.



# Saturday, July 30 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Clear your calendars so you can assist in setting up, working the day of the sale, and cleaning up. Sign-up sheets will be available in July. If you would like to join the planning team, contact Connie Beisner, Kathy Herron, Clara Herbel, or Corlene Lange.



#### Council Retreat Saturday, August 27

Immanuel, St. John's, and Redeemer will have a joint council retreat at Martinelli's on Saturday, August 27 beginning at 11:30am.

Pastor Dave Whetter from the Synod staff will lead the retreat. All Council members are expected to attend, so mark your calendars now! Cost for lunch is \$15 per person.

WELCA will not meet in July or August. Altar Guild will not meet in July or August.

No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.

Amelia Earhart

### **July Worship Volunteers**

as of 6/22/22

	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Greeter	Tom Davis		Janet Ireton	Alisha Cooper & Kim Lemon	
Usher					
Acolyte					
Cantor					
Lector	John Yosai	Karen Olson	Janet Ireton	Eugene Tillberg	Liz Diehl
Communion Assistant	Janet Ireton			Eugene Tillberg	
Altar Guild Set-up	No communion	No communion	Corlene Lange	Corlene Lange	Jo Srna
Altar Guild Clean-up	No communion	No communion	Diana Looney	Corlene Lange	Norma Hodge

### **August Worship Volunteers**

as of 6/22/22

	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28
Greeter	Janet Ireton			
Usher				
Acolyte				
Cantor				
Lector	Janet Ireton	Monica Davis	Emily Komarek	Liz Diehl
Communion Assistant		Monica Davis		
Altar Guild Set-up & Clean-up	No communion			