



# The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

May  
2020

*“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:4*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Easter we celebrated Christ’s resurrection which granted us the promise of forgiveness and the hope of eternal life. I have to admit that this year may have been the strangest Holy Week that I and most of you have ever experienced. And yet we still celebrated Easter.

I have mentioned this before but it bears repeating: Easter was not cancelled because there is absolutely no way in which we, mere humans, can cancel what God has done in Christ. Yes, I do wish that we could have worshipped as a whole with people in the building, but I also believe that doing so would probably not have been a good idea.

At the April council meeting, we discussed again how the COVID-19 virus is challenging and changing how we do our ministry. We discussed Governor Kelly’s and President Trump’s orders to stay-at-home and limit gatherings to no more than 10 people. We also deliberated on Bishop’s Candea’s request to pause in-person worship. It was not an easy conversation. Council decided to continue pausing our in-person worship and other activities. When the orders are lifted, council will meet again to determine how we will re-open our building.

We know that not everyone is in agreement with the council’s decision. It was not an easy decision to make. We know that pausing in-person worship is not ideal but it is the best move for safety of our members during this pandemic.

In Christ,  
Pastor Kent



## Stewardship during a Pandemic

It is important to remember during these times of “social distancing” that we are all united in our love of God and our love of the mission at Immanuel. Despite the temporary COVID-19 suspension of our in-person worship and activities, we will continue to pay our bills, meet our monthly obligations, and care for our employees just as they care for our church and facilities. To that end, we encourage you to financially support our ministry!

## Mother’s Day Flower Delivery \* May 7-9

Extra precautions will be taken to keep our volunteers safe: all volunteers will need to wear masks; deliveries will be doorbell dashes with no contact; we will be delivering from the dining area that will be blocked for our use only. If you are a [high risk for COVID-19 severe illness](#), do not volunteer. If you are able to help, contact [Mindy](#) or sign-up [here](#).



## Harvest Worship \* May 31

This worship will occur either through online worship or in-person worship. Watch for more details!

*Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ’s Love*