



The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

November
2020

NOTES FROM NANCY

"By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22

You know what thrills me on this beautiful fall day?

* YOU..... your faithfulness, your wisdom, your generosity, your hunger to be what God created you to be.

* What we might become.....

A church that empowers leadership and where God-given spiritual gifts are used effectively.

A church with a Jesus-centered faith characterized by prayer, enthusiasm and boldness.

Thoughts to ponder -

"(After studying the results of a "Decade of Evangelism" the ELCA concluded)..... There was – *get ready* – only ONE factor that was a good predictor for whether or not a church grew: The ONLY factor that really matters is whether or not a church has a clear enough vision of where God wants it to go that it is willing to do whatever it takes to follow wherever God leads.

How we do things *does* matter. But that's not the real issue. The real issue is who we ARE. Are we people who are so confident in God's love and grace that we are able to try new things and welcome new people and embrace new ideas and dream new dreams? Are we clear enough about what we are being called to do and to be that we are willing to set off on whatever new adventure God calls us to?

Are we full of enough hope that we can dare to fail, to risk messing everything up, to take the chance that we are wrong? Are we free to love, to serve, to share, to sing, to laugh, to lead, to give ourselves away? Are we willing to let ourselves be turned upside-down and inside-out by a God who wants for us, for our congregations, and for our world more than anything we could ever even ask or imagine? Who ARE we? Who are YOU? How is your life being changed by God's power and presence and call? How is God changing your congregation? These are the real questions. And this is the place to begin."

"RECLAIMING the "L" WORD – Renewing *the Church from Its Lutheran Core*" by Kelly A Fryer

May the God of hope be with you, inspiring, calling and inviting you to dream and to believe in possibilities.

Friends, so thankful to begin this journey with you and I look forward to getting to know you. Feel free to call or e-mail with questions or concerns.

Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 15

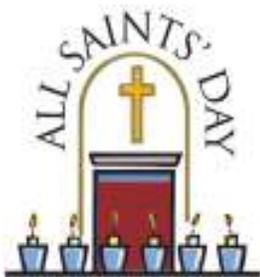
There will only be ONE worship on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 10:00am.

The Congregational meeting will immediately follow worship.

Elections will be held and a 2021 Budget will be voted on. Please remain seated after worship and follow COVID-19 protocols (physically distanced, wearing masks, etc). This is also Stewardship Sunday! Your 2021 pledge card is included with this newsletter; please place it in the offering plate on November 15.



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



All Saints Sunday November 1

When we confess the Apostles' Creed and proclaim our belief in the "communion of saints", we remember all the saints, famous or obscure, who have died and are at rest with God. On All Saints Sunday, we especially remember those members who have died in the last year: Tom Highsmith, Charles Smith Jr., Roberta Sharp, Jessie Peterson, Donna Kamm, Mary Endsley, and Doris Christian. Candles of remembrance will be placed on the altar for these saints. Additional candles will be lit throughout the sanctuary to remind us of other friends and family who have preceded us in death.

Holy Communion

Beginning November 1 we will resume serving Holy Communion during worship. The safety of our members is paramount, so please follow instructions carefully.

Prepackaged sets of wafers and grape juice will be on tables in the narthex and chapel areas. Please take one set for yourself as you enter worship. Do not open the elements until instructed to do so. You will remain in your seat during communion. Please throw used cups and plastic in the trashcans as you leave worship.



Please know that although communing with both elements (bread & wine/grape juice) is encouraged, the crucified and risen Christ is fully present in, with, and under each element. If you are only able to receive one of the elements, you have fully received Holy Communion.

Congregation Council Action from September 2020:

Approved the transfer out of Ted, Angie, Kyle, Anneka & Kaitlyn Sundell. (09/14/20)

Approved the Covenant Agreement for Nancy Mitchell to serve as our Synod Authorized Minister. (09/21/20)



As Christians, we believe that we are freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. How do we respond to God's call to do this? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so abundantly given to us. Stewardship, in its simplest form, is the practice of gratitude and generosity; giving thanks to God and faithfully using what God has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our treasures — to love and serve our neighbors.

Included in this newsletter is a pledge card for 2021. Please prayerfully consider how you can share of your financial resources next year and help Immanuel continue it's ministry of loving and serving our neighbors. Please return your pledge card on Sunday, November 15.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, WELCA is collecting monetary donations this year for Bethany Home staff to safely purchase Christmas gifts for residents. Please mark your donation to "Bethany Home" and mail it to the church or place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Also, if anyone can donate 2 dozen cookies please contact Sonja Johnson. Donations and cookies need to be at the church by Sunday, November 22.



Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm

All are welcome to celebrate the harvest and other blessings of the past year! Redeemer Lutheran, St John's Lutheran, and Ashby House have been invited to join us in worship. COVID-19 protocols will be followed (physical distancing, mask wearing, etc).

All of the places of our lives are sanctuaries; some of them just happen to have steeples. And all of the people in our lives are saints; it is just that some of them have day jobs and most will never have feast days named for them.

—Robert Benson, *Between the Dreaming and the Coming True*

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God’s accomplishments. To rehearse God’s accomplishments is to discover God’s heart. To discover God’s heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver.

Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

—Max Lucado, *You’ll Get Through This*



Daylights Savings ends November 1

Set your clock back 1 hour Saturday night!

God’s Word @ Home

To encourage faith formation at home, each Sunday morning a family bible study video will be posted to the Immanuel Lutheran Church private Facebook group. Supplies needed for the Bible study will be listed in the video description, so you can gather them ahead of time. You will be guided through a few activities that will help your family explore the Gospel reading for that day. Throughout the bible study you will be encouraged to pause the video and complete the activities.



In addition, there will be a daily devotional shared on the same private Facebook group. Faith5 (Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless) is used for the devotional format.

Building Usage

Congregational Council has approved building usage for congregational groups. A leader from each group/team must contact the church office and complete a Church Usage Form. COVID-19 protocols listed on that form must be followed.



Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to mindy@immanuelsalina.org
Deadline for newsletter articles is 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

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A WAY OF LIFE

God is both the source and ultimate owner of all that we have and God entrusts all that we have to our faithful care and use. God entrusts to us resources of time, talent and treasure. God entrusts to us skills, energy, possessions, money, the earth, and one another.

God entrusts everything to us!! Stewardship is a way of thanking God for these blessings, by giving an expression of our gratitude and commitment of support for the ways God has enriched our lives.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Immanuel will not be participating in Live Nativity or Parade of Lights this year.

Bethany Home Association Rebranding

Over the years, Bethany Home Association has grown to offer a wealth of living options, at



the heart of a community that embraces creativity, art, and a uniquely Lindsborg lifestyle. To better demonstrate our warmth, kindness, and breadth of opportunities for senior living, we’re embracing the name Bethany Village.

Under the umbrella name Bethany Village, each residential area will be named:

- The Cottages—Independent Living
- Sunflower Terrace—Full-Service Senior Living
- Bethany Home—Rehabilitation and Long-Term Care

Through tapping into the talents of our residents, the rich arts and cultural life in Lindsborg, and inspiration from our Creator, we engage our community of senior living residents with creative activities, lifelong learning, and intergenerational opportunities—as well as a healthy sense of self-fulfillment, value, and friendship.