



# The Messenger

November  
2021

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



## Notes from Nancy



*"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God—" Micah 6: 6,8*

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*

What excites me this beautiful fall day---

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

**WHAT WE MIGHT BECOME** -

A church with a Jesus-centered faith characterized by prayer, kindness, humility and enthusiasm. A church willing to boldly work for justice.

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

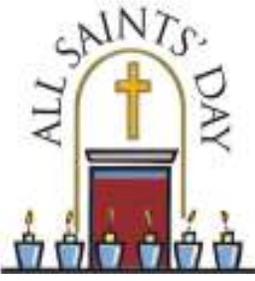
**FORWARD**  
in  
**MISSION**



**On Sunday, November 7 at 9:00 am, the Transition Team is hosting a breakfast for the congregation followed by worship and a workshop in the Fellowship Hall.**

There will only be one worship service that Sunday, in the Fellowship Hall, after the 9:00 am breakfast. The Transition Team has summarized the information they have gathered during the last 6 months into areas of action. The focus of this workshop will be to prioritize these areas of action. **YOU ARE NEEDED** to help decide the future for our congregation! This vision for the future is vital for the completion of Immanuel's Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which is the first step in calling a new pastor. The Transition Team thanks you for your time, energy, and dedication to this process. See you Sunday, November 7 at 9:00 am!

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



## All Saints Sunday November 7

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: Betty Ritter, Philip Humbargar, Betty Zorn, Jerry Olson, Duane Norberg, LoVaune Rasmusson, Delores Anderson, Cliff Carlson, Carolyn Larson.



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 2022. 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 by **Monday, November 15**.



Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.  
—*Maya Angelou*

## Congregation Council Action from September 2021:

Motion was approved to call a special congregational meeting to vote on the recommendation of the Council to sell the parsonage.

## Transition Team Update

On 10-05-21 the Transition Team had a meeting with Pastor Dave Whetter, assistant to the Bishop, and DJ Whetter, a representative of the Kansas Leadership Center. Discussion was on information gathered so far from the meetings, how to prepare to continue to move forward in our transition process and about the process of writing and submitting the MSP (Ministry Site Profile). The transition team has continued to collate the data from all of large and small group discussions, the last discussions being at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services on 10-17-21. Common themes that have emerged from the discussions are: worship and music is an area of strength, moving to one service would bring unity and community, we are not in a growth pattern but we have a desire to support youth and families, service projects are a highlight for our congregation, we are open to shared ministry and partnerships, we have an uncertainty about leadership styles, we struggle with the willingness to change, we are not currently sustainable, and we have a desire to share God's love through our community through helping youth, families, and the homeless. On 10-18-2021 we began writing the first draft of the MSP. Once the transition team has a final copy of the MSP, it will be a joint effort of the Transition Team and the Call Committee to edit it or approve it to be submitted to the Council. The Council then has full editing authority and once pleased with the document, will vote to approve it. Once approved, the document is submitted to the Synod for review and must receive approval to be posted by the Bishop. Once posted, ministerial candidates can view it. If you have any questions or desire to give input into the data that has and continues to be collected, please contact one of the Transition Team members. Thank you to everyone for your candid and thoughtful contributions to our conversations and to this process.

**Karla Arpin, 785-309-9080. Zoe Greenmeyer, 785-761-1838. Emily Komarek, 785-787-8065.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karla Arpin, Transition Team Member*



**The church office will be closed:**  
Thursday, November 4  
Tuesday-Wednesday, November 23-25  
Fridays, for the rest of the year

**Thanksgiving Eve Dinner & Worship**  
**Wednesday, November 24**  
**5:30pm Dinner (\$5/person)**  
**7:00pm Worship with Holy Communion**



Menu includes: ham, turkey, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, corn casserole, dressing, rolls, cranberry sauce and pie. Reservations due Wednesday, November 17. Call 825-4750 or email [office@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:office@immanuelsalina.org). Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, contact Mindy Tillberg.



**Daylights Savings ends November 7.**

Make sure to set your clock back 1 hour Saturday night before you go to bed!

**Sun, Nov 7 \* Noon–2pm**

6-12th graders are invited for food, fellowship & fun!  
 Bring \$2 for lunch.



**Live Nativity**

**Saturday, November 20**

In cooperation with the Downtown Salina Christmas Festival, Immanuel will be providing a live nativity on the lawn at Pioneer President's Place. Volunteers are needed to portray nativity characters!



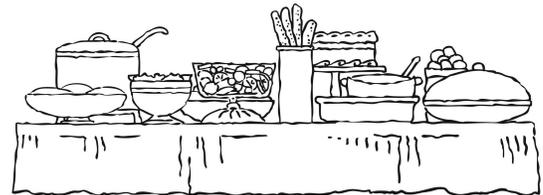
Please contact Connie Beisner if you can help.

- 2:30pm Setup for Live Nativity
- 3:30-4:30pm Live Nativity
- 4:30pm Tear down nativity



**Confirmation Class**

**Nov 14 \* Noon-2:30pm**  
 7th & 8th graders will meet in Mindy's office.



**Potluck & Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, November 21**

- 12:00pm Potluck
  - 1:00pm Meeting begins
- See the enclosed 2022 proposed budget.

**Women of the ELCA**

**Welca Group**  
 Thursday, Nov 11 at 2pm at church

**Elizabeth Group**  
 Wednesday, Nov 17 at 6:00pm at church

**Altar Guild**

**Wednesday, Nov 17 at 5:15pm**

Please attend as we will not meet in December!

**Wednesday, Dec 1 at 3:00pm**

Decorate for Advent & Christmas.



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

Please send information to [office@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:office@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](mailto:nancy@immanuelsalina.org)  
 Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....[mindy@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:mindy@immanuelsalina.org)

**Bethany Home Christmas Collection**



WELCA is collecting gift cards and money for the Bethany Home Christmas Party for residents. The gift cards and money will be used by the staff to purchase gifts for the residents. Checks may be made to "Bethany Home" and on the memo line please put "Activities, Christmas gifts." Gift cards may be given for BATH and BODY; SAM'S; DOLLAR GENERAL; WALMART; WHITES (grocery store in Lindsborg.) There will be a basket to receive your gifts at the bottom of the steps at church. Please have them there by Nov. 14. Any questions, please contact Sonja Johnson at 825-9208.