



Transition News from the Congregational Council

During a pastoral vacancy, there are two primary functions that congregations need to address: (1) continued pastoral care for members, and (2) congregational preparation for calling a new pastor.

Pastoral Care: In consultation with the Synod and after prayerful discernment, Nancy Mitchell has been called to serve as our part-time ministry support pastor during our transition. As a synod authorized pastor, Nancy will be able to carry out all the duties of pastor. Our covenant with her is from October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

Nancy's first Sunday will be October 4. Her office hours will be Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 8:30am-12:30pm. You may also contact her by email nancy@immanuelsalina.org or by her cell phone (913) 219-6780 as needed.

Preparation for calling a new pastor: When the need arises to call a new pastor, it is necessary for the congregation to take the time to conduct a self-evaluation and redefine its purpose. Many believe the purpose of a congregation is to worship on Sunday mornings, but the reality is, we worship on Sunday morning, so that we might be fed and equipped to leave worship and go into the world to do the work of the church. This transition process is critical because, if it is done well, it provides the information needed to complete our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which is used to call a new pastor.

The Central States Synod has partnered with the Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) to assist congregations in this process. The KLC Congregation Transition Plan (CTP) is an eight-month transition plan. Immanuel will get a dedicated KLC facilitator (Ministry Transition Guide) with experience in ministry and working through processes of transition. This Ministry Transition Guide (MTG) is on-site with the us for dedicated time periods over the eight months. KLC's goal is to prepare us for call while energizing us to work towards an MSP that is clear about the purpose of our ministry thus helping us be clear about the type of person we would like to call.

Call to prayer: Throughout this time of transition, we encourage you to pray for our congregational leadership and the ministry of Immanuel.

God of all time and seasons, we ask your presence and blessing on us, the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church, as we recall and give thanks for what has been done, and as we look forward to what you are calling us to be and to do in the coming years. Free us to be compassionate with one another. Gather us together with true generosity of spirit as we work to discern your will for us and for your Church. Guide us to vision with faith, hope and love. AMEN

Reformation Sunday, October 25

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg church, thus launching the Protestant Reformation. Whether you are worshipping online or in-person, we encourage you to wear **RED** in commemoration of this event.



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



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and a great opportunity to learn more about domestic violence. For example, did you know 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men experience domestic violence in their lifetimes? Some communities are more affected by abuse and experience more barriers to safety because of race, age, faith, class, immigration status, language, physical ability, gender, or sexual orientation. Domestic violence is abuse that can be verbal, emotional, physical, financial, sexual, or spiritual. We'd like to think it doesn't happen in our congregation, but the truth is that domestic violence happens in every congregation. Experiences of abuse can be difficult to talk about, and that explains why we often haven't heard about it. We all have a critical role to play in supporting survivors of abuse, so we all need to learn more about how to help. Please, talk to your friends and others in our congregation about your ideas, and contact our local domestic violence services agency, Domestic Violence Association of Central KS (DVACK) in Salina @ (785) 827-5862 or 1-800-874-1499 to learn more. You may also visit the website at www.dvack.org for more information.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you or someone you know may be experiencing domestic violence, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-SAFE (7233). For resources about faith and domestic violence, visit <http://www.interfaithpartners.org/dvfaith>.

Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK) Services include: 24 Hour Hotline, Crisis Intervention, Counseling, Emotional Support & Understanding, Safety Planning, Emergency Transportation, Civil and Criminal Court Advocacy, Assistance with Protection Orders, Economic Advocacy, Safe Shelter, Support Groups, Information and Referrals, Housing Advocacy, 911 Phones, Emergency Aid: Food, Clothing, Hygiene items and Household goods, Teen Dating Violence Prevention and much more!

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

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

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Perhaps you have noticed the hazy weather conditions here in Salina over the last few weeks. The haze you see is the smoke from the fires ravaging the western states. Fueled by a heat wave and unfavorable winds, these wildfires have erupted across California, Oregon, Washington and other western states. As of September 22, seventy-five large fires have burned more than 3.7 million acres in 11 states. More than 30,000 wildland firefighters and support personnel are assigned to wildfires across the country. Evacuation orders remain in place for residents near 23 large fires in the West. At least 20 people have died and hundreds of thousands of people are under evacuation orders. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with at least three Lutheran social services agencies and five synods to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs may include food and other necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.



Gifts to "U.S. wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires, until the response is complete. Donations may be sent to the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday.

Congregational Council Action from August 2020:

Motion passed to compensate pulpit supply at the rate recommended by the synod (\$150 for one service and \$50 for each additional service) effective August 1, 2020.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who donated money and gathered supplies for Ashby House on God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday. Your gifts are a blessing!

Thank You to everyone for their donations to the 9/11 event. Also thank you to everyone who volunteered to help.