



The Messenger

September
2019

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

During our August council meeting a big part of our discussion was our financial condition and what can we do about it. We basically have two choices. We need to increase income or cut expenses. Our three highest expenses are staff salaries/benefits, utilities and insurance. Is God really asking us the question “What expenses can be cut?” or is he guiding us down another path?

The other path we discussed in detail was increasing income. We can ask people to give more, but what if we talked about how to get more people to worship and involved in our activities. Our mission statement states that we are to welcome all and share God’s love. Isn’t this inviting people to come and experience God as we do? How many invitations have you extended this year?

I am sure there are some who do invite others to join them at Immanuel and I am equally sure that there are others who do not think it is important or needed. The thought is that as more people worship, then more people will respond to God’s love for them by giving back to God their offering. That mentality does make sense.

Getting more offering is not the motivation for inviting people because we invite others to experience God with us so that they are able to know God’s love for them. But as more people gather together as the Body of Christ here at Immanuel, an increase in offering can be a direct result of that. Isn’t that what God asks us to do? First we invite others to join us as part of the Body of Christ. We also give back to God part of what God has already given to us.

When ascending to heaven, Jesus said in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing all people in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” This is where our invitation comes from. We are called to make disciples of all nations; of all people.

In Deuteronomy 16:17, we read, “Every person shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which God has given you.” Each one of us gives as we are able and how much we give is between God and us as individuals.

The church is not a business, but it must be run like a business. We have faith that God will provide because God always has throughout Immanuel’s history. But we also need to be good stewards with what we have been given. As we approach the budget planning for the year 2020, the Council will continue to closely monitor our financial situation and evaluate financial expense line items. But we should pray about what we can individually do to share God’s word as we continue our ministry throughout 2019 and into 2020. Just picture what the opportunities are and what the results would be if we each invited one person to our worship and activities! Please contact me if you need guidance in how you can extend invitations.

In Christ,
Pastor Kent

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

DID YOU KNOW Happy Hearts Preschool...



...is a ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church?

...is almost completely self-funded? The church provides the classroom space, a few utilities (water, electric), and copier usage.

...is funded through tuition fees, scholarships, and a grant from a local foundation?

...has spots open for the 3 year old class on Tuesdays & Thursdays this year? Contact [Erica Arb](#) for more information.

Did you also know you support the Preschool Scholarship Fund when you help deliver flowers for Valentine's Day? Half of the money earned goes to the youth, the other half goes to the preschool scholarship fund!

Happy Hearts Preschool Finances Jan 1 - July 31, 2019

Income:

Tuition fees received	\$6,155
Scholarships awarded	\$175
Grant monies used	<u>\$2,519</u>
Total Income	\$8,499

Expenses:

Salary and wages (2 staff)	\$7,496
Payroll taxes	\$571
Supplies	\$213
Advertising	\$83
Licenses	<u>\$136</u>
Total Expenses	\$8,499



Congregation Council Action from July 2019:

Accepted the transfer of Gordon & Gloria Tillberg to Trinity Lutheran, Salina.

Approved Hot Times mission recipients, the Salvation Army and the ELCA Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM).

Approved usage of the trophy case by the Library Team for celebrating the 150th anniversary of Immanuel.

The good news: July was a good month for revenue. Thank you for your generosity! The not-so-good news: we still need to make up for three months of not-so-good revenue.

Unassigned Cash Balance (01/01/19)	\$9,552.19
Revenue to-date	116,292.40
Expenses-to-date	<u>(130,226.65)</u>
Unassigned Cash Balance (07/31/19)	(\$4,382.06)

Currently we are covering this deficit by using part of our \$9,468.35 of reserves. We are hopeful we can repay what we borrow so our cash reserves are available for emergencies. As always, we strive to be good stewards and monitor expenses closely.

We hope that you prayerfully consider your financial support of Immanuel's ministries as we continue to Welcome All, Grow Together in Faith, and Share Christ's Love! If you have any questions, please contact Corlene Lange, Council President.



150th Anniversary Planning Team

As the sesquicentennial of Immanuel Lutheran Church approaches in May 2020, we are looking for volunteers who would like to help plan our celebration! If you are interested in serving on the Anniversary Planning Team, please contact [Mindy Tillberg](#).

thank you

Thanks to all who helped make Hot Times, Fun in the City a success! We moved the event to Sunday which allowed us to close and use 7th Street where over 80 cars parked! As of August 19, we raised \$1,800 which will be split between the Salvation Army and ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission.

Missions Team

Thank you to the ladies and men who prepare for and serve funeral dinners. This is an important part of our ministry at Immanuel. Recent comments have indicated a sincere appreciation for the hospitality that the ladies and men have shown. What a wonderful reflection of Immanuel's caring!



Saturday, September 21 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This activity not only is a fund raiser for our general fund but is an opportunity to strengthen our relationships among our church family and those who come to shop. We need your assistance!! We will be setting up on Sept 18-19, baked items are needed by Sept 20 at Noon, and we'll need help on Saturday including clean-up. We have a spot for anyone who wants to help! Sign-up sheets will be on the bulletin board in the main hall or later in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Clara Herbel, Connie Beisner or Corlene Lange.

Camp Tomah Shinga Quilt Auction

Saturday, September 14

11:00am Quilt viewing
 Noon Lunch
 1:00pm Auction begins



7821 E. Lyon Creek Road, Junction City, KS 66441

Women of the ELCA Welca Group

Thursday, Sept 12 at 2pm at church

Anna Group

Wednesday, Sept 18 at 1:30pm at Pres. Manor

Elizabeth Group

Wednesday, Sept 18 at 6:15pm at church

**God's Work Our Hands Sunday
 September 8 from 9:30-11:30am**

Please see the attached flyer for more information!

Generations in Faith Together (GIFT) class will meet Sundays at 10:00am starting September 15.



Youth Group * Sun, Sept 15 * Noon-2pm
 6-12th graders are invited for food, fellowship & fun!
 Please bring \$2 for lunch.

Altar Guild will resume meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is September 18 at 5:15pm in the Library.



Senior Lunch

Mon, Sept 23 at Noon

Please bring a dish to share. Table service provided.

"Paris to Pittsburgh"

Thurs, Sept 26 at 7 p.m.

KWU Fitzpatrick Auditorium

Join us for a FREE viewing of this inspiring documentary about cities and towns across the U.S. that are embracing the transition to a lower-energy future. The event is free, but reservations are necessary due to limited seating. Contact Mary Mertz at mary.mcginis@juno.com or 820-5585.



Newsletter Distribution

The October Messenger will be emailed on Sept 20. To receive your newsletter by email, contact Mindy. For those who opted for print copies, they will be available for pick-up on Sunday, Sept 22. If you do not pick yours up that day, it will be mailed to you.



Do you have an article for the October Messenger?

Please send information to mindy@immanuelsalina.org
 Deadline for the next newsletter is September 15.

CONTACT US:

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Roberta Sharp will celebrate her 95th birthday on September 1. Help her celebrate by sending her a card at Eaglecrest Assisted Living, 1501 E Magnolia #42, Salina, KS 67401.

Arnold Tillberg's 80th birthday will be celebrated on September 22 from 2-4pm at Immanuel. All are welcome!