

Address Service Requested

Confirmation News

The Confirmation students have been hard at work this year learning about the Old Testament. Below is the topics/verses they have already learned about. After the Old Testament, the students will venture into the New Testament. Confirmation meets on Sunday's during the Sunday School hour.



ANCESTORS

Scope & Sequence

Adam & Eve: The lovable screw-ups Genesis 1:1-26; 2:7-24-3:24 Noah: The obedient eccentric Genesis 6:5-8, 11-22; 7:11-8:4; 8:20-9:1, 8-17, 20-23, 28 Abraham & Sarah: The ordinary patriarchs Genesis 12; 16-17; 21-22 Jacob: The conniving survivor Genesis 25:24-34; 27; 29-30; 32:22-33:20



Joseph: The virtuous dreamer Genesis 37; 39–45 Moses: The frustrated leader Exodus 2-3; 32; Numbers 20:1-13; Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Rahab: The faithful opportunist Joshua 2:1-21; 6:22-25 Deborah: The exasperated matriarch Judges 4:6-9, 12-22; 5 Samson: The raging prima donna Judges 14; 15:4-5, 14-17; 16:4-22, 28-31

PARISHNE

In This **ISSUE**

Prayers	2
Calendar	3
Worship Leaders	4
Adult Forum	6

Sunday School 7

Lenten Midweek 9

The Parish News is a monthly publication of ILC. Articles or information pertinent to the life and mission of the congregation may be emailed to the office at office@immanuelkc.org. Space limitations may require editing of material. Deadline for the April 2019 issue is Friday, March 15 To be removed from our mailing list or submit a change of address, contact the church office at 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.



Not exactly the most polite conversation starter, is it? I imagine most people would be a bit put off, if you led with that. It doesn't exactly draw people in. Yet that's precisely how we begin the season of Lent, every year. We gather on Ash Wednesday, to remember our mortality, and name with honesty a fact we all know, but might sooner want to forget: that we are all going to die. We spend forty days in the wilderness of Lent, preparing for Holy Week, and the great feast of Easter. Without Lent, our celebration of the resurrection lacks context-if we are to rejoice over God's victory over the grave, then we must first honestly name the reality of death.

Now more than ever, we need to act with urgency and hope. Join us, and be a part of God's life-giving work than conquers death.



March 2019

From Pastor Micah

You are going to die.

We take the time to do this, not only on Ash Wednesday, but throughout the Lenten season, gathering during the week for prayer, and study, and simple meals. We'll continue this practice, this year, focusing on our Care of Creation, a vocation that humanity has not faithfully practiced. Every Wednesday before Holy Week, we'll gather at noon and 5:45 pm to share a simple meal and study issues of faith, ecology, and how we can care for the earth, our shared home, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7 pm.

Pastor's Bookcase

Pastor Micah is currently reading A Darker Shade of Magic by V. E. Schwab

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

Staff

Micah Sievenpiper - Pastor msievenpiper@gmail.com Ann Rundquist - Ministry Coordinator pastorannrundguist@gmail.com Cell: 785-643-7697 **Robert Barthel - Organist** Vicki Bartholomew - Administrative Assistant Suzanne Anderson - Music Director Kevin Fewell - Building Manager

Council & Executive Committee

Connie Benolkin - Vice President Dean Byrom Deborah Crawford Jeff Fox Kate Hauber Terry Kueker - Secretary Mary Jo Moore - President Lynden Peters Mindy Rash - Treasurer Rick Sundell - Financial Secretary Scott Thompson Catie Tomlin Jack Umbach

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Members of Immanuel

Theresa Draper, Andree Cuthbertson, De Pfoltner, Ann Erickson, Bill Norris, Paula Simonich, Jackie Turner, Deanne Schlehuber

Friends of Immanuel

Beverly Dumler, friend of Roland & Betty Pera Paula & Erin Weir, friend of Betty Pera Bakeberg Family, friends of Betty Pera Kat M, Janice M., friends of Peggy Dollard Kara Cordell, family of the Atherton's & Hauber's Sue Carlson Albers, aunt of Marc & Patti Winkler Lee Hass, grandmother of Catie Tomlin Sharon Guess, co-worker of Linda Fewell Lance Hill, brother of Deborah Crawford Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom Denise Smith, cousin of Lori Kueker Baby Reylyn & Family, friends of Peggy Dollard Major, friend of Linda Taylor & Peggy Dollard Kim R. & family, friends of Peggy Dollard Baby Simone & Cami, friends of Lauren Park Craig Reinig, brother-in-law of Linda Taylor Eleanor Daniels, daughter of Clay & Martha Bowden Carol Fewell, mother of Kevin Fewell Julia Mills, niece of CeCe & Tracy Atherton Scott Kimbriel, friend of Janie Fee Paula Crane Craton, niece of Mary Nelson Rock Westfahl, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Coleman Renoe Carol Gillespie, friend of CeCe & Tracy Atherton B.J. Jorgenson, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore Mary Lucht, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore Roy Morrill, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore

For Military Service:

Christopher Hovde, family of the Boehmer's & Krupp's Spencer Krupp, family of the Boehmer's & Krupp's

INVITE A FRIEND SUNDAY

March 31st

Invite a friend, neighbor or relative to experience Immanuel's faith-filled worship, friendly fellowship and fun vitality

Bring your favorite dish to share during a potluck meal following second service.

> Share what you love about Immanuel. Let's make it a celebration!

From the Prez

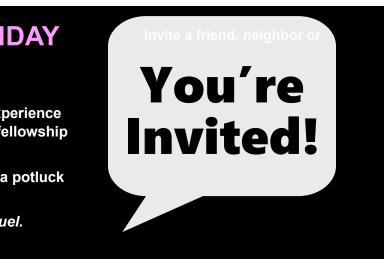


just typed up responses we members want Immanuel to do a better job of received to the 3-question survey communication. There were numerous references to people at the Annual Meeting were upping our social media presence, e.g., Facebook, asked to complete. In attendance Twitter, Instagram, and making Pastor Sievenpiper's were 54 voting members. Thirty-one sermons available to our homebound, to family and people completed the surveys for a friends, and elsewhere in the community. Another 57% response rate. Certain themes common theme was more outreach and engagement with our immediate neighborhoods -West Plaza, Volker – and the larger community. In the "new things to consider" category, adding another worship service with alternative formats, music genres, and/or providing a contemporary one on Sunday was mentioned more than a few times. Another common theme was creating opportunities for small groups around interests. Examples include parents with young children, music, running, and yoga, among others. These responses will be given to Pastor and the Congregation Council for input into the planning process being led by Pastor. As always, your input is important and there will be other Not surprising. opportunities to make your voice heard.

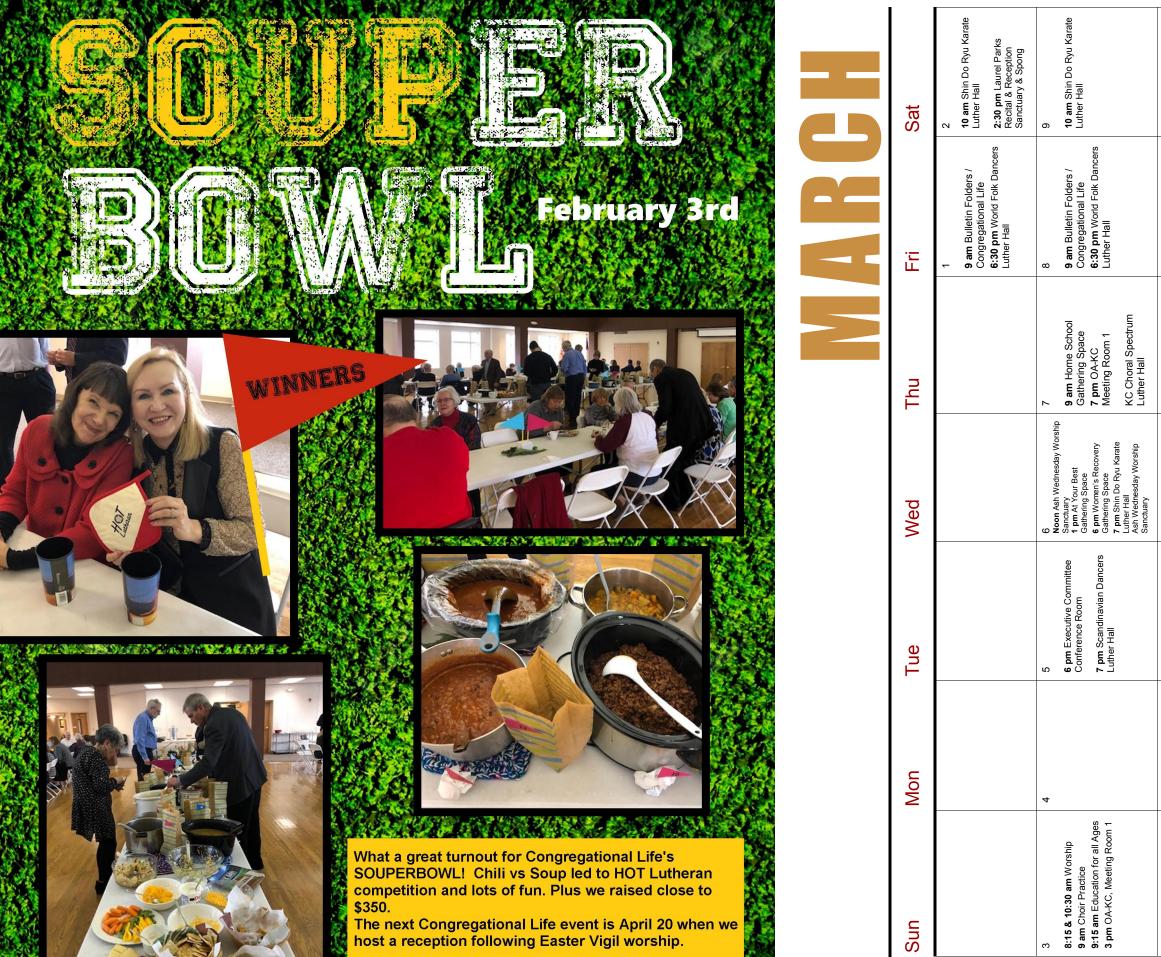
jumped out immediately. In the "what we do well and want to continue doing" category, there were no surprises. Overwhelmingly, people love our worship services, especially the liturgy, music and sermons. People also love our "welcoming presence", many fellowship and service opportunities, and social events outside our walls, e.g., Theology on Tap. They also like opening our building to use by others, e.g., Purple Dragon Day Care, neighborhood associations, karate classes and the like. In terms of improvements, there were tweaks to some of the things we do well, but, otherwise, people want Immanuel to shine its light brighter. By this I mean spread the word throughout the KC community of our loving, welcoming and inclusive community of Christians here at Immanuel.



"God's Work. Our Hands." day will be at Hollis Renewal Center on September 8, 2019. Following the Lent theme of CREATION, we will engage in projects to benefit Hollis and God's creation. Keep watching for more information from your Congregational Life team!







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10 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 6 pm Musica Vocale, Luther Hall	11	12 6:30 pm Finance Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall	13 Noon Lenten Midweek, Spong 1 pm At Your Best Gathering Space 5:45 pm Lenten Midweek Spong 6 pm Wornen's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate	14 9 am Home School Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 KC Choral Spectrum Luther Hall 7:30 pm Friends of Lit., Arney's	15 9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	16 9 am KC Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Spong Prayer Team Meeting
17 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 6 pm Musica Vocale, Luther Hall	18 6:30 pm MW Victim Impact Spong	19 7 pm West Plaza Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg Luther Hall Council, Spong	20 Noon Lenten Midweek, Spong 1 pm At Your Best Gathering Space 5:45 pm Lenten Midweek Spong 6 pm Women's Recovery 6 arthering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate	21 9 am Home School Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1	22 9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	23 9 am Bell Choir Practice Sanctuary 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall
24 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 6 pm Musica Vocale,Luther Hall	25	26 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall	27 Noon Lenten Midweek, Spong 1 pm At Your Best Gathering Space 5:45 pm Lenten Midweek Spong 6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate	28 9 am Home School Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 KC Choral Specthum Luther Hall Theology on Tap Afterword Tavern & Shelves	29 9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	30 8:30 am Altar Guild Spong Property Workday 9:30 am Worship & Arts Spong 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall
31 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Age Noon Welcoming Com. Potluck 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 6 pm Musica Vocale,Luther Hall						

March 3 March 10	8:15 am Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungeberg Communion Assistants: Karen Bame & Josie Yungeberg Ushers: Pam Edvalds & Need Volunteer Greeter: Mike Ortmann Assisting Minister: Karen Bame Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum Communion Assistants: Rick Sundell & Alex Hastings Ushers: Pam Edvalds & Matt Hastings Greeter: Hastings Family	10:30 am Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich Lay Reader: Linda Fox Communion Assistants: Heather Winker-S & Nam Ahrens Acolyte: Jack Friedrich Cross: Lynden Peters Ushers: Mike, Kelle, Kyle Boehmer, Michael Hamlin Greeter: Beth Byrom Assisting Minister: John Anderson Lay Reader: Vicki Swanson Communion Assistants: Linda Taylor-S & Desiray Boehmer Acolyte: Zach Boyd Cross: Mason Carey Ushers: Del Karmeier, CeCe Atherton, Kate Hauber, Ken Ross, Ellie McCarter Greeter: CeCe Atherton
March 10	Assisting Minister: Karen Bame Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum Communion Assistants: Rick Sundell & Alex Hastings Ushers: Pam Edvalds & Matt Hastings Greeter: Hastings Family	Assisting Minister: John Anderson Lay Reader: Vicki Swanson Communion Assistants: Linda Taylor-S & Desiray Boehmer Acolyte: Zach Boyd Cross: Mason Carey Ushers: Del Karmeier, CeCe Atherton, Kate Hauber, Ken Ross, Elli McCarter Greeter: CeCe Atherton
March 17	Assisting Minister: Kevin Fewell Lay Reader: Lisa Hansen Communion Assistants: Sharyl Serafin & Elie Roddy Ushers: Need Volunteers Greeter: Carolyn Wilson	Assisting Minister: Linda Taylor Lay Reader: Kate Hauber Communion Assistants: Milan Hanson-S & Connie Benolkin Acolyte: Need Volunteer Cross: Milan Hanson Ushers: Chris Roth, Kevin & Linda Fewell, Bob Hyland Greeter: Linda Fewell
March 24	Assisting Minister: Linda Fox Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger Communion Assistants: Sharyl Serafin & EB Walker Ushers: Dee Craig & Elizabeth Hastings Greeter: Don Arney	Assisting Minister: Jeff Fox Lay Reader: Mike Fee Communion Assistants: Gretchen Bishop-S & Need Volunteer Acolyte: Hank Hunter Cross: Need Volunteer Ushers: Marc & Patti Winkler, Randy Callstrom, BJ Laven Greeter: Marc & Patti Winkler
March 31	Assisting Minister: Lauren Park Lay Reader: Bryan Park Communion Assistants: Karen Bame & Rick Sundell Ushers: Need Volunteers Greeter: Pam Edvalds	Assisting Minister: Linda Taylor Lay Reader: Henrik Andersen Communion Assistants: Sally Baehni-S & Henrik Andersen Acolyte: Ciara Boyd Cross: Henrik Andersen Ushers: Leilani, Zach & Ciara Boyd, Mason Carey & Kayla Mabon Greeter: Terry & Lori Kueker

Feeding 700 700 sack lunches for Metro Lutheran Ministry

Sunday, May 19 between services • Luther Hall

MLM's sack lunch program is ongoing and the need is critical - MLM distributes approximately 850 sack lunches a MONTH between its three locations in Midtown, Wyandotte County and the Northland. That is more than 10,000 a year! In response to this need, Immanuel's Social Ministry Committee will be hosting our 3rd annual event called **Feeding 700** – that's right, our goal is to pack and donate 700 sack lunches this year! This event will be held May 19th in Luther Hall and will replace Adult Forum and Sunday school.

Who receives a sack lunch?

- Learning to Earning participants hungry people seeking assistance with finding employment
- Walk-ins those who, for a variety or reasons, can't access the regular MLM food pantry, which is open five days a week, but still are in need of food or othe emergency assistance. This includes children, the homeless, low-income mental-health outpatients from Truman Behavioral Health and low-wage workers in who are in need of nutrition



March Worship Schedule

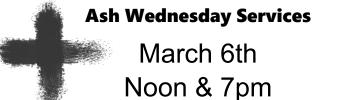
Join MLM supporters at Boulevard Brewing Company for the 7th annual 3B fundraiser to partake in local brew and wine, delicious BBQ from Joe's KC, and basketball!

This event raises funds and awareness of MLM's emergency food programs in Kansas City MO, Kansas City, KS, and North Kansas City. For more information, please contact

Kelly Seward at kellyseward@mlmkc.org or 816-285-3141

m

Boulevard Brewing Company 2501 Southwest Blvd Kansas City, MO 64118



ry ng	Please plan to participate by: Donating items listed on the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board outside the Vestry – we
of	need 700 of each! Bring donated food
M	items to the purple bins under the Vestry
а	bulletin board beginning Sunday, April 14.
er	Being at the packing event May 19 th between
es	services to pack lunches and join the fun!
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an rs	

3B Fundraiser

On-Line Reservations Available

mlmkc.org - click on Events - click on 3B

Lenten Midweek

Begins March 13th Theme: Our vocation as stewards of creation

Meal & Study at Noon

or

Meal at 5:45pm - Study at 6pm -Vespers Worship at 7pm

nine



Social Ministry Events and Opportunities to Serve in 2019 Ahead

March	22 7–10 PM	MLM's 3B Event	Join friends at Boulevard Brewing Company to watch basketball, eat delicious barbeque, and sample Boulevard beers to raise funds and awareness for MLM's emergency food pantries
	24, 31	Easter Card Sale	Cards feature artwork supplied by ILC's Sunday school students. Proceeds from the sale will go to: Lutheran Disaster Relief
April	7, 14	Easter Card Sale continues	Cards feature artwork supplied by ILC's Sunday school students. Proceeds from the sale will go to: Lutheran Disaster Relief
	14, 21, 28	Feeding 700	Ingathering of nonperishable food items for MLM's Sack Lunch program
Мау	5, 12, 19	Feeding 700	Ingathering of nonperishable food items for MLM's Sack Lunch program
	19	Feeding 700 Sack Lunch Packing Event	Help pack 700 sack lunches between services. All ages welcome!
June	5 5-8 PM	MLM's Summer Breakout	Family event that supports MLM's annual Christmas Store Holy Cross Lutheran Church
July	7, 14, 21, 28	Christmas in July	Ingathering of gifts for needy individuals/families in the Kansas City area. Gifts will be distributed during the annual MLM Christmas Store, held at ILC in December
September	8	God's Work. Our Hands Sunday	Look for information mid-year regarding this year's activities
	15, 22, 29	CROP Hunger Walk Sign Up	Mark your calendar! This year's walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 13 th . You may participate by walking or making a donation to support ILC walkers
October	6, 13	CROP Hunger Walk Sign Up continues	You may participate by walking or making a donation to support ILC walkers
	13	CROP Hunger Walk	Our donations benefit people in our local community, as well as folks around the globe, who struggle with hunger
November	3, 10, 17, 24	MLM Christmas Store Gift Donations	Ingathering of gifts for needy individuals/families in the Kansas City area. Gifts will be distributed during the annual MLM Christmas Store, held at ILC next month!



Thursday, March 28th 7pm

Afterword Tavern & Shelves 1834 Grand Blvd - KCMO (NW Corner of 19th & Grand)

All interested adults are invited to come enjoy an evening of thoughtful theological discussion, as well as good food, drink, and fellowship. If you are interested in attending, please add your name(s) to the signup sheet located on the bulletin board outside the Vestry. Questions? Please contact Janie Fee at 816-444-5492.

Sock It To Me Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who participated in Immanuel's sock drive during the month of February. Two verv full tubs have been handed off to

Pastor Ann! She will distribute the socks at Gathering Table at Children's Memorial, which serves poor and homeless individuals and families in northeast Kansas City.

Coffee Hour Help Needed

Help is needed to clean up after coffee hour each Sunday. Please see the sign up sheet in the Spong Common Room. Thank you!

Altar Flowers

There are several open Sunday's to purchase Altar flowers in the upcoming months. Altar flowers are a great way to celebrate an event and/or loved one. Flowers are \$45 and you can sign up in the Spong Common Room.

March birthdays

John Helegsen Saundra Tree Sarah Wilcox Judson Bertsch Catie Tomlin Carolvn Brauer **Rick Wilcox** Freya Sievenpiper Iris Roddy Jean Nuernberger **Doloris** Pfoltner Ann Erickson

March 3 March 7 March 7 March 10 March 10 March 14 March 18 March 21 March 22 March 26 March 27 March 31

Make sure the office has your birthday so we can include you on our list!

Confirmation News

Please attend 75% of worship services and email or leave me a weekly note expressing something you liked, questioned or disliked during the service. Examples: a statement from the service, hymn or even a ritual. There will be an assignment or make up session for each class you can't attend.

Large Print Bulletins

If you would like a large print bulletin for the 10:30 am service, please ask an usher. A limited number are available each Sunday.

Choir Singers Wanted

The Immanuel Choir is welcoming new people who would like to offer their voices in worship on Sunday mornings. Rehearsals are at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings before the 10:30 a.m. Service. The choir sings roughly three Sundays a month, plus extra services for Holy Week. This Spring we are planning to sing Bach's Cantata Christ Lag in Todesbanden, (Christ Lay in Death's Dark Tomb) BWV 4, as a part of a Vespers Service on April 28th. For more information, please contact Suzanne Anderson at SuzanneAndersonILC@gmail.com or just stop by on a Sunday morning.

friends of LITERATURE

Friends of Literature meets Thursday March 14th 7:30PM at the home of Don and Mary Arney.

The book for discussion is Red Notice by Bill Browder is founder and CEO of Browder. Hermitage Capital, the largest foreign invester in Russia until 2005. This true story is a financial caper, a crime thriller and a political crusade. We will recognize current headlines about Russia and president Putin in the story of Bill Browder becoming an accidental activist. Come try out Friends of Literature, contact the church office or Don Arney for more information.



A New Way To Give

Giving to Immanuel just got easier! We set up an account

with Tithe.ly, an on-line app that you download to your computer and/or smart phone. It's easy to set up an account: https://get.tithe.ly. Once the app is downloaded, set up your account. Be sure to search for/click on Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1700 Westport Road, KCMO, 64111 to be the recipient as there are hundreds of congregations named Immanuel! Then select an offering amount, offering source, date you want to send your offering (one time, recurring), etc., click send, and within 48 hours, Immanuel receives your offering. You receive an email notification. It's that easy! For more information, ask Jack Umbach, jackumbach@gmail.com.

Adult Forum Topics

Congregational Discernment with Pastor Micah March 3 March 10 **Congregational Discernment with Pastor Micah** March 17 Scott Cooper - MLM Executive Director March 24 **Bill Kimble – Director of Neighborhoods United** March 31 **Discussion of Church & State with Pastor Micah**

Committee works to help make our ministry truly mutual

Immanuel's ministry is strongest and most effective when it truly is the mutual work of both the laity and the pastor. Helping to ensure that all congregation members have opportunities to be heard and involved is the work of the Mutual Ministry Committee. Don Arney, Connie Benolkin, Mason Carey, Janie Fee, Tori Friedrich and Linda Fewell serve on that committee, which is an important link between the pastor and the congregation.

You can expect your Mutual Ministry Committee to:

- Initiate and promote informed, thoughtful dialogue about perceptions and concerns within the congregation so Immanuel's ministries within the community and the world may be strengthened and enhanced.
- Help advance reconciliation by addressing conflicts or misunderstandings among members that may affect the congregation's ministry, as

well as conflicts between members of the congregation and the pastor or other rostered leaders.

- Serve as a "focus group" that is representative of the congregation — a group through which other congregation leaders may share ideas for ministry and seek to assess how best to accomplish what is being proposed
- Provide support for the pastor and other leaders, • especially during times of personal or professional stress
- Support the pastor's and other rostered leaders' need for spiritual self-care, compensation, maternity/paternity leave, sabbatical and continuing education

Feel free to approach any member of the committee at any time with joys, suggestions or concerns. If necessary, your input will remain confidential.

The 2018 Annual Meeting took place on Sunday, February 17th. Highlights of the meeting included:

- Meetina.
- education and study.
- 2018 expenses were down slightly.
- ance for the year.
- Congregational Council. All nominees were voted for approval.
- 2019 budget as presented was voted on and approved.
- current loan conditions and four options the Council is considering.

Easter Card Sale This Month!



The Social Ministry Committee will be selling Easter ways: cards between services and following the 10:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, March 24th through March 3rd - children will make noisemakers during Palm Sunday, April 14th. These handmade cards the Sunday School hour so they can help put away feature Easter related artwork provided by our the Alleluias during the church services. Sunday school students. The cards are sold in March 10th - several children, grades K-3, will packs of 5 for \$10.00. Proceeds from the sale will begin First Communion classes, led by Lisa be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response, an ELCA Hansen, Suzanne Steffen, & Pastor Micah. organization that brings hope, healing and renewal March 27th - SS families and teachers will help with to people in the US and folks around the world the Wednesday Lenten supper. An email will be whose lives have been disrupted by disasters. Be sent out in early March, asking for volunteers. sure to stop by and check out the cards at the table March 31st- Children are encouraged to invite a outside of the Spong Common Room, across from friend to church on this Sunday. There will also be the Vestry doorway. a Potluck lunch after church.

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

 Pastor Micah indicated that the church must always be reforming. Pastor will initiate a steering committee to outline ILC's vision for the future. The Congregation Assessment Questionnaire provided at the Annual Meeting is the first step along this journey. The goal is to complete the assessment by the 2020 Annual

Pastor Micah indicated 2019 will include development of an Immanuel Symposium for continuing spiritual

• Treasurer Mindy Rash presented the Financial Report highlighting that 2018 revenue was up slightly and

 Lynden Peters reported on the Endowment Trust Fund (ETF). He indicated there were no ETF withdrawals needed after mid-summer 2018. The ending balance for 2017 was \$566k and the 2018 ending balances was \$475k. ETF withdrawals to cover the deficit budget and a declining rate of return (- 6.4%) on the market were contributing factors. He also indicated the rate of return was in line with market perform-

Nominating Report – there were a few TBD rolls to fill and the congregation should let members of the Nominating Committee know if they are willing to serve. Kathy Boehmer & Janie Fee were nominated for

Kate Hauber chaired a discussion/presentation on mortgage debt reduction. The discussion included the



In March, the Sunday School children will be taking part in the start of the Lenten season in various