



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1700 Westport Rd. ■ Kansas City ■ Missouri 64111
www.immanuelkc.org

Address Service Requested



Immanuel Lutheran
Women's Bible Study

Wednesday
May 1

WELCA

You are invited to the women's
Bible study:
From Generation to Generation
Two-way blessings
Stories from Genesis, Exodus,
Luke & John

Wednesday, May 1st
10:30-Noon

Catered Lunch will be served at

Jackie Turner's residence
Armour Oaks, 3rd floor, 8100
Wornall Rd, KCMO 64114

Entrance and parking is by the
fountain that can be seen off of
Wornall Road

PARISH NEWS

May 2019

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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 June 2019 issue is Friday, May 17.** 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.



From Pastor Micah

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Easter is a season of new life, a time for us to remember all the promises of God that bring hope in the midst of the unknown. It's the heart of the gospel that defines us as a community, that drives out fear, and makes all things new. We are an Easter people, rooted in this hope of new creation. As heirs to a tradition of reformation, we are entrusted with living out this resurrection hope that calls for constant rebirth and renewal.

This past month, the Steering Committee has begun its work of discernment, setting out a vision for where God is calling us, but this is a task that will take the work of the whole community of Immanuel. Keep an eye out for various ways to make your voice heard, as we continue to welcome congregational input. We've already begun to listen, through adult forum sessions, and questions posed at the annual meeting, but that's just the beginning. I believe one of our strengths as a congregation is the wealth of diverse voices and perspectives that are joined together in one chorus. If you'd like to make your own voice heard, please don't hesitate to reach out to me personally, or any other members of the Steering Committee: Mary Jo Moore, Linda Fox, Kayla Mabon, Elie Roddy, Don Arney, Bryan Park, Dave Peterson, Connie Benolkin, Bonnie Thomas, Lori Kueker.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Pastor's Bookcase

Pastor Micah is currently reading *Sapiens - A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

Staff

Micah Sievenpiper - Pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Ann Rundquist - Ministry Coordinator
pastorannrundquist@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
Kathy Boehmer
Dean Byrom
Deborah Crawford
Janie Fee
Kate Hauber
Terry Kueker - Secretary
Mary Jo Moore - President
Lynden Peters
Mindy Rash - Treasurer
Rick Sundell - Financial Secretary
Scott Thompson
Jack Umbach

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Members of Immanuel

Theresa Draper, Andree Cuthbertson, De Pfofner, Ann Erickson,
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
Lauren, friend of Pastor Ann Rundquist
Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Doug & Peg Himebaugh
Shirley Ross, sister of Kenny Ross
Jack Clanin & Christine Leonzal, family of Lori Clanin

For Bereavement
Family of Bill Norris, member of ILC

From the Prez



WHY CHURCH?

Recently I read a couple of articles that got me thinking about church and why it is important. The first article was written by Carol Kuruvilla for Huff Post and titled *Church Membership Has Dropped Sharply Over The Past 2 Decades: Gallup*. The second one was written by Hanna Rosin for NPR and titled *The End of Empathy*.

Some noteworthy findings in the Gallup study:

- % of American adults who say they have no religious preference doubled from 8% in 2000 to about 19% in 2018
- Currently, about 77 % of American adults identify with a religion and only 64% of those adults are members of a church or other faith institution.
- There is a significant generational gap that may persist in the future. 42% of millennials say they are members of a religious institution whereas, 20 years ago, when Generation X adults were around the same age as millennials are today, 62% belonged to a religious institution. The article ends with this takeaway: Roughly 1 in 4 American adults today are religious but are not members of a church, synagogue or mosque.

In "The End of Empathy", Rosen says there has been a critical shift in American culture over the past decade or so. Gone are the days when empathy meant to understand and feel what someone else is feeling, or to see the situation from their point of view, even of people we don't like. Starting around 2000, researchers studying empathy noticed a shift. People started to question whether empathy was a positive value, asking why should they put themselves in the shoes of someone else? I call this the "We to Me" shift or Me 1st. Some writers think this shift is deepening divisions within our society and leading us, increasingly, to tribalism.

I don't know if there is a correlation between declining church membership and our culture shifting away from valuing empathy for people who may be different from us. I do know that church is important because God created it to reveal Jesus Christ to the world through those of us that believe, are in relationship with God and each other, and to demonstrate God's Truth.

Because God created Church to reveal Christ to the world, my question to you is this: what does this mean for 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.



In the month of June we will be collecting items to send to Hollis for their summer camps.

Items needed:

- Paper Towels
- Coffee Filters (for 12-cup coffee makers)
- Toilet Paper
- Hand Soap (please NO anti-bacterial soap, it messes with the septic tanks)
- Napkins
- 409/Lysol cleaning spray bottles

happy

BINGO

hour

Saturday

MAY 18

FOUR to SIX

APPETIZER

potluck

proceeds will go towards debt reduction

BINGO

\$5

per CARD

bring a bingo prize and receive a free extra card

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall Symposium, Spong</div>	2 <div>9 am Home School Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 KC Choral Spectrum Luther Hall</div>	3 <div>9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall</div>	4 <div>8:30 am Altar Guild Spong 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall 6 pm English Dancers Luther Hall</div>
5 <div>8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 6:30 pm Musica Vocale Luther Hall</div>	6 <div>6 pm Executive Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall</div>	7 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall Symposium, Spong</div>	8 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall Symposium, Spong</div>	9 <div>9 am Home School Gathering Space 6:30 pm Volker General Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 KC Choral Spectrum Luther Hall Friends of Literature, Arney's</div>	10 <div>9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall</div>	11 <div>8:30 am Property Workday 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall 6 pm English Dancers Luther Hall</div>
12 <div>8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1</div>	13 <div>6:30 pm Finance Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall</div>	14 <div>6:30 pm Finance Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall</div>	15 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall Symposium, Spong</div>	16 <div>9 am Home School Gathering Space 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1</div>	17 <div>9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall 7 pm KC Choral Spectrum Sanctuary</div>	18 <div>9 am Musica Vocale Sanctuary 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall 4 pm BINGO! Luther Hall 8 pm KC Choral Spectrum Perf. Sanctuary</div>
19 <div>8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 KC Choral Spectrum Perf. Sanctuary</div>	20 <div>6:30 pm MW Victim Impact Group, Spong</div>	21 <div>7 pm Council West Plaza Neigh. Mtg Luther Hall</div>	22 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall</div>	23 <div>7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1</div>	24 <div>9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall</div>	25 <div>8:30 am Altar Guild, Spong 9:30 am Worship & Arts, Spong 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall</div>
26 <div>8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1</div>	27 <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div>	28 <div>6:30 pm Finance Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall</div>	29 <div>6 pm Women's Recovery Gathering Space 7 pm Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall</div>	30 <div>1:30 pm Wendy Smith Reh. Sanctuary 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 Theology on Tap, KC Bier</div>	31 <div>9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall</div>	

Smau

SUNDAY SCHOOL

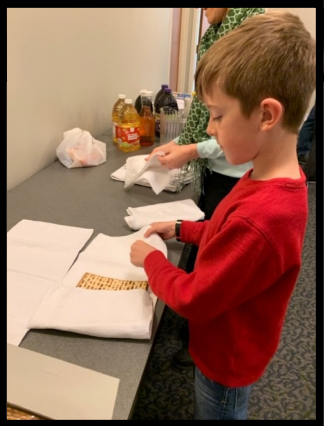


look at all the fun we are having in Sunday School!



Immanuel's children's Sunday School will have two weeks of class time in May (5th & 12th). On May 19th, we will participate in the "Feeding 700" activity, packing 700 lunches for Metro Lutheran Ministries. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can donate food for this effort.

We plan to gather between services a few times this summer and will notify families once dates and activities are confirmed.



On Palm Sunday, the Sunday School students and Adult Forum classes joined together for a Christians Celebrating Passover event. This event was an exploration of the Jewish Seder, and the last supper Jesus had with his disciples during Passover, where he introduced them to Holy Communion.

May Worship Schedule

	8:15 am	10:30 am
May 5	Assisting Minister: Linda Fox Lay Reader: Jean Nuemberger Communion Assistants: Sharyl Serafin & Rick Sundell Ushers: Pam Edvalds & Need Volunteer Greeter: Mike Ortmann	Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich Lay Reader: Larry Benolin Communion Assistants: Heather Winker-S & Nah Ahrens Acolyte: Jack Friedrich Cross: Lynden Peters Ushers: Mike, Kelle, Kyle Boehmer, Michael Hamlin Greeter: Beth Byrom
May 12	Assisting Minister: Kevin Fewell Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungeberg Communion Assistants: Karen Bame & Josie Yungeberg 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, Ellie McCarter Greeter: CeCe Atherton
May 19	Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom Lay Reader: Lisa Hansen Communion Assistants: EB Walker & Elie Roddy Ushers: Need Volunteers Greeter: Carolyn Wilson	Assisting Minister: Linda Taylor Lay Reader: Kate Hauber Communion Assistants: Milian Hanson-S & Connie Benolkin Acolyte: Charley Friedrich Cross: Milian Hanson Ushers: Chris Roth, Kevin & Linda Fewell, Bob Hyland Greeter: Linda Fewell
May 26	Assisting Minister: Karen Bame Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum Communion Assistants: Rick Sundell & Alex Hastings Ushers: Dee Craig & Elizabeth Hastings Greeter: Don Arney	Assisting Minister: Jeff Fox Lay Reader: Mike Fee Communion Assistants: Gretchen Bishop-S & Kyle Boehmer Acolyte: Hank Hunter Cross: Kyle Boehmer Ushers: Marc & Patti Winkler, Randy Callstrom, BJ Laven Greeter: Marc & Patti Winkler

Communion Servers: Pastor, Assisting Minister and one Acolyte will complete the communion team. Please remember to check in with Pastor Micah in the Vestry before service.

Looking Ahead

Social Ministry Events and Opportunities to Serve in 2019

May	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!
December	1	MLM Christmas Store Ingathering of gifts	Gifts will arrive from MLM and other area Lutheran churches. Gifts will be distributed during the annual Christmas Store, held at ILC next week!
	2,3	MLM Christmas Store Set Up	Volunteers will set up and stock the Christmas Store To volunteer visit: mlmkc.org
	4, 5 ,6, 7	MLM Christmas Store	The store will be open for individuals/families to shop To volunteer visit: mlmkc.org
	TBD	MLM Christmas Baskets	Help pack and deliver holiday baskets to homebound folks To volunteer visit: mlmkc.org

THEOLOGY TAP

Thursday, May 30th at 7pm

KC Bier CO - Waldo

310 West 79th Street

(1 block east of 79th & Wornall Road)

Discussion Leader: Linda Fewell

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.



Save the Date!

June 2 after 2nd service

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Who: The Social Ministry committee

What: Explore and act on ways to minister to our brothers and sisters locally, nationally, and globally

When: First Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Where: ILC neighborhood eateries

Why: Because we are called to serve others

Questions: See Pam Edvalds, Rick Sundell, Janie Fee, Linda Fewell or Gretchen Bishop

We plan and carry out projects such as the MLM Christmas Store gift drives, Easter card sale. CROP Hunger Walk, school supplies drive, just to name a few.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 2nd at 6pm at Aladdin Café 3903 Wyoming Street, KCMO

May birthdays

Robert Setterburg

May 1

Maddie Wilcox

May 2

Matthew Beckmann

May 6

Amanda Rash

May 8

Riley Kennedy

May 11

Carolyn Wilson

May 11

Michael Friedrich

May 14

Pam Edvalds

May 17

Soren Radke

May 17

Candy Thompson

May 20

Ken Beckmann

May 23

Anna Kennedy

May 23

Milan Hanson

May 23

Alex Hastings

May 24

Peg Himebaugh

May 25

Chris Roth

May 25

Luke Hastings

May 30

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

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!

First Communion

Josh Friedrich, Benny Hastings, Ellie McCarter, & Julia Hunter (L to R) received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Soren Radke (not pictured) also went through First Communion.

Easter Card Sale THANK YOU



The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who supported this year's Easter Card sale. We would also like to thank

Immanuel's Sunday school students for providing the beautiful artwork for the cards – we couldn't do this project without you!

A total of **\$210** was raised! These funds have been sent to Lutheran Disaster Response, an ELCA organization that brings hope, healing and renewal to people in the US and folks around the world whose lives have been disrupted by disasters.

Volunteers Wanted!

The Stewardship Committee would like to grow - it is springtime, after all! Join now as we plan our year-round program focusing on creation. Stewardship is a way of life, not just an annual fall commitment drive. It is an integral part of our Christian identity. Want to learn more?

Contact Rick Sundell, chairperson, rsundell@kumc.edu.



A New Way To Give

Giving to Immanuel just got easier! We set up an account with [Tithe.ly](https://get.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.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At its April 16th meeting, the Congregation Council took the following actions:

- Scott Thompson and the Building Use Committee continue to discuss arrangements to allow use of the ILC facilities for a small company that provides music lessons. Specific use of rooms and times, as well as fees are still under discussion. If approved funds would help improve the deficit budget.
- The Council thanked John Anderson for his hard work designing and implementing our new sound system. The system serves the Sanctuary, Narthex, Spong Common Room, and provide personal hearing assist devices. Work should be finished in time for Easter worship.
- Save the Date - The Council approved a motion from the Welcoming Committee to celebrate Immanuel's 120th anniversary on Sunday September 29th. Details to follow.
- The Council approved a motion to create a task force to work with MLM in connection with this year's Christmas Store. The task force will be led by Kathy Boehmer, and includes Milan Hanson, Janie Fee, Kevin Fewell, and Terry and Lori Kueker.
- Bryan Park and Elie Roddy were approved as additional members of the Steering Committee.

Complete minutes will be available upon request from the church office once approved by Council at their May meeting.

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!

Who receives a sack lunch?

- **Learning to Earning participants – hungry people seeking assistance with finding employment**
- **Walk-ins – those who, for a variety of reasons, can't access the regular MLM food pantry, which is open five days a week, but still are in need of food or other 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**

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.

Please plan to participate by:

- Donating items listed on the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board outside the Vestry – we need 700 of each! Place donated food items in the purple bins under the Vestry bulletin board.
- Being at the packing event May 19th between services to pack lunches and join the fun!



Immanuel Symposium on Liturgical Theology

7-8pm on
June 5, 12, 19 & 26

\$35 suggested registration fee

register by **MAY 28th** by phone or e-mail:

(816) 931-8483 or

symposium@immanuelkc.org

For more information, visit immanuelkc.org/symposium