

**Address Service Requested** 

# WELCA

You are invited to the women's

Bible study:

"Esther the Queen"

Summer Session #1: Esther 1-3

Thursday, June 20 10:30 am

Meeting Room #1 (room next to the library)

Bring a snack to share!



# PARISH III

June 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 July 2019 issue is Friday, June 21. 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



I recently stumbled across a study that found nearly two-thirds of pastors fear speaking out on moral issues, along with a list of topics that preachers felt the most pressure to avoid. Unsurprisingly, abortion was near the very top of the list. It's too dangerous to discuss in the church, despite the timeliness of the conversation, with legislation being passed in states all over the country—including Missouri—that limit access to safe

and legal abortions, or banning them outright.

In our increasingly divided world, abortion has become a wedge-issue, splitting people apart. In the public sphere, it's handled with precious little in the way of nuance, and in the church, it's simply too uncomfortable to talk about. I suspect that some of you reading this would rather I stay silent on this topic, and I can understand that. But the Bible proclaims that "love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18), and even though it can be frightening and vulnerable to address things that feel taboo in the church, I believe that we are called to give witness to the love of God in our lives.

The ELCA social statement on abortion recognizes that our tradition is not of one mind on this issue, but nonetheless confesses "We are called to be a compassionate community, praying and standing with those who struggle with decisions regarding unintended pregnancies." I understand that this isn't a topic of black and white—there are shades of gray, in the complex ethical and spiritual questions raised by abortion.

(continues on page 7)



### **Pastor's Bookcase**

Pastor Micah is currently reading For the Life of the World by Alexander Schmemann

# 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

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...**

### Friends of Immanuel

### For Healing:

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 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 Baby Reylyn & Family, friends of Peggy Dollard Major, friend of Linda Taylor & Peggy Dollard Kim R & Family, friends of Peggy Dollard 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 Roy Morrill, friend of Bill & Mary Jo Moore Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Doug & Peg Himebaugh Shirley Ross, sister of Kenny Ross Jack Clanin & Christine Leonzal, family of Lori Clanin Family of Kip Niven, friends of Kevin & Linda Fewell Karen Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor Liz Wuertz. sister-in-law of Linda Taylor

Larry Byrom, brother of Dean Byrom

### **Members of Immanuel**

Theresa Draper, Andree Cuthbertson,
De Pfoltner, Ann Erickson,
Paula Simonich, Jackie Turner,
Deanne Schlehuber, Gerry Niewald



### For Bereavement:

Family of Bill Norris, member of ILC
Family of Rev. Clemens Pera, brother of Roland Pera
Family of Richard Hullet, husband of Nan Hullet,
musical friend of ILC

### From the Prez



June is the month when YouthWorks kicks into gear. Soon multitudes of teenagers will be in our midst. Throughout the day they perform community projects in the metro area, returning "home" to Immanuel every night for food,

fellowship, and rest. Summer is coming!

June is also a good month for a mid-year update from Council. While we post our highlights in the Parish News each month, I want to bring to your attention a couple of things. At the annual meeting in February, we shared that Council is looking at strategies to reduce our annual deficit, which includes increasing giving and reducing our mortgage payment. Two Council members are championing these efforts and both efforts will work in concert with other committees. These are: the campaign to increase giving, led by Dean Byrom and coordinated with the Stewardship Committee; and the campaign to reduce our mortgage payments, led by Kate Hauber and coordinated with the Finance Committee. Please note that no Council action will be taken relative to our current mortgage without Council holding a Special Congregational meeting. Stay tuned for that notice!

Lastly, a couple of shout-outs. Those of you that are able to attend worship may have noticed the sound has improved greatly. You can thank John Anderson for this as he researched, purchased, and installed a new sound system in the sanctuary! Not only is the sound quality superb but we soon will have the ability to post recordings of Pastor's sermons. What a wonderful outreach to our shut-ins, and others that want to hear Pastor's inspiring words. Way to go, John!

Of course, not all changes to our church are noticeable. The last shout-out goes to Kathy Boehmer for preparing a written protocol for the MLM Christmas Store that documents the roles and responsibilities of Immanuel and MLM, the activities, and preparation required prior to, during, and after the Christmas Store. Council approved the formation of an Immanuel MLM Christmas Store task group to implement this protocol. A huge thank you to this team of Immanuel volunteers who are committed to this vital ministry.

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NIV) 23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### Feeding 700 Update

804 sack lunches for Metro Lutheran Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the Feeding 700 sack lunch packing event held in Luther Hall on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Whether you donated food and/or helped pack lunch bags – you made our goal a reality! We packed a total of 804 lunches!

Your generosity will help those who seek assistance from Metro Lutheran Ministry at their Midtown, Wyandotte County and Northland locations. 850 sack lunches per month are distributed to folks requiring immediate assistance.

### **THANK YOU!**















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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8:30 am Altar Guild Spong 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall 6 pm English Dancers Luther Hall
8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Age Noon DeliWorks, Luther Hall 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1 Wendy Smith Recital Sanctuary	ю	4 <b>6 pm</b> Executive Committee Conference Room <b>7 pm</b> Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall	6 pm Women's Recovery Meeting Room 1 7 pm Symposium Conference Room	6 <b>7 pm</b> OA-KC Meeting Room 1	7 9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Danoers Luther Hall	8 <b>10 am</b> Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall
9 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1	10	7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall	6 pm Women's Recovery Meeting Room 1 7 pm Symposium Conference Room	13 7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1	9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	15 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall 5 pm New Hope Church Luther Hall
16 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Choir Practice 9:15 am Education for all Ages 3 pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1	17 6:30 pm MW Victim Impact Group Choir Room	18 <b>7 pm</b> Council Spong	6 pm Women's Recovery Meeting Room 1 7 pm Symposium Conference Room	20 10:30 an WEKCA Meeting Room 1 <b>7 pm</b> OA-KC Meeting Room 1	9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	22 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall
8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Education for all Ages pm OA-KC, Meeting Room 1	24	25 6:30 pm Finance Committee Conference Room 7 pm Scandinavian Dancers Luther Hall	26 6 pm Women's Recovery Meeting Room 1 7 pm Symposium Conference Room	7 pm OA-KC Meeting Room 1 Theology on Tap, KC Bier	28 9 am Bulletin Folders / Congregational Life 6:30 pm World Folk Dancers Luther Hall	9:30 am Worship & Arts Spong 10 am Shin Do Ryu Karate Luther Hall
30 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship 9 am Property Meeting Conference Room						

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	8:15 am	10:30 am
June 2	Assisting Minister: Lauren Park Lay Reader: Bryan Park Communion Assistants: Sharyl Serafin & EB Walker Ushers: Mike Ortmann & Jean Nuernberger Greeter: Jean Nuernberger	Assisting Minister: Vicki Swanson Lay Reader: Larry Benolkin Communion Assistants: Kathy Linder-S & Nam Ahrens Acolyte: Anthony Mazza Cross: BJ Laven Ushers: Milan Hanson, Ryan Hunter, Terry & Lori Kueker Greeter: Hunter Family
June 9	Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger Communion Assistants: Desiray Boehmer & Alex Hastings Ushers: Boehmer Family Greeter: Boehmer Family	Assisting Minister: Linda Taylor Lay Reader: Connie Ross Communion Assistants: Mary Ann Ciochon-S & Nancy Beck Acolyte: Need Volunteer Cross: Mason Kumm Ushers: Jay Browning, Ken Beckmann, Gretchen Bishop, Cor
June 16	Assisting Minister: Kevin Fewell Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungeberg Communion Assistants: Karen Bame & Josie Yungeberg Ushers: Pam Edvalds & NEED VOLUNTEER Greeter: Melodee Blobaum	Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin Lay Reader: Dean Byrom Communion Assistants: Ellen Wilcox-S & Audrey Parson Acolyte: Jack Friedrich Cross: Dean Byrom Ushers: Scott Thompson, Rick Wilcox, Jack & Heather Umbac Greeter: Mindy Rash
June 23	Assisting Minister: Karen Bame Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum Communion Assistants: Sharyl Serafin & Rick Sundell Ushers: Lisa Hansen & Family Greeter: Friedrich Family	Assisting Minister: David Peterson Lay Reader: Mason Carey Communion Assistants: Kevin Fewell-S & Mindy Rash Acolyte: Ciara Boyd Cross: Kevin Fewell Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker, Bill & Mary Jo Moore Greeter: Bill & Mary Jo Moore
June 30	Assisting Minister: Linda Fox Lay Reader: Lisa Hansen Communion Assistants: Karen Bame & Elie Roddy Ushers: NEED VOLUNTEERS Greeter: Pam Edvalds	Assisting Minister: Linda Taylor Lay Reader: Henrik Andersen Communion Assistants: Sally Baehni-S & Henrik Andersen Acolyte: Zach Boyd Cross: Henrik Andersen Ushers: Leilani, Zach, Ciara Boyd, Mason Carey, Kayla Mabol Greeter: Terry & Lori Kueker

ather Umbach

Nancy Beckmann

Communior
Servers:
Pastor,
Assisting
Minister and
one Acolyte
will
complete
the
communior
team.

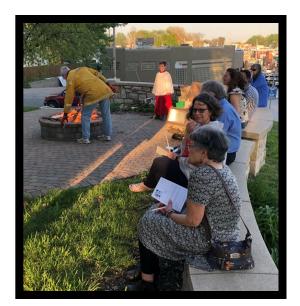
Bishop, Connie Ross

Kayla Mabon



## Easter Vigil Saturday, April 20, 2019





### **Christmas in July**

During the month of July, the Social Ministry Committee will be collecting gift donations for the annual MLM Christmas Store, which

is held at Immanuel in December. The Christmas Store provides holiday gifts to Kansas City individuals/families in need. Last year, the Christmas store served close to 900 families and 100 homebound individuals! Gifts are needed for people of all ages. A Christmas tree will be set up in the Spong Common Room beginning Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. The tags on the tree are supplied by MLM and note the items most needed. Feel free to take a tag(s) for your shopping convenience. If you are not a shopper but would still like to help, MLM seeks Wal-mart gift cards in the amount of \$15. All unwrapped gift donations should be placed around the Christmas tree on/before July 30<sup>th</sup>. Wal-mart gift cards may given to a Social Ministry committee member (Pam Edvalds, Janie Fee, Rick Sundell, Linda Fewell, Gretchen Bishop) or turned in to the

# Thank You **Immanuel!!**

Greetings & gratitude!

It's great to see the signs of spring all around. They are signs of hope after a long winter. Your recent gift to Mosaic generates that same feeling of hope; hope for a brighter future for the people Mosaic supports.

Thank you for your donation of \$400 to Mosaic. We are founded in the Church, and our work is a ministry of service. I'm grateful to have you as a partner in our mission.

With sincere thanks, Pastor David deFreese



church office. nine four

June

**Worship Schedule** 



# Looking

# Social Ministry Events and Opportunities to Serve in 2019

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 <sup>th</sup> . 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



4	Adult Forum Topics
June 2	Stained Glass Windows in Sanctuary with Megan Sawyer
June 9	Synod Assembly Delegates Report
June 16	TBD
June 23	How We Teach with The Art with Bonnie Thomas
June 30	TBD



### Thursday, June 27th at 7pm

KC Bier Company – Waldo 310 West 79<sup>th</sup> Street (1 block east of 79<sup>th</sup> & Wornall Road)

Discussion Leader: Jack Umbach

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.

### **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, June 6th - 6pm at Aladdin Café located at 3903 Wyoming St. KCMO

### **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!

### **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.

### **June birthdays**

Mary Ann Ciochon June 2 Kai McCarter June 4 Janie Fee June 6 Hank Hunter June 8 Beth Byrom June 16 David Allen June 17 Mike Boehmer June 18 **Robert Crawford** June 19 Sara Prem June 19 Lisa Hansen June 20 Elizabeth Hastings June 27 Michael Kennedy June 27 Catherine Hauber June 29 Roger Gieschen June 30 Roland Pera June 30

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



FOOD | LIVE | FAMILY TRUCKS | MUSIC | F U N



5:00 - 8:00 pm Holy Cross Lutheran Church 7851 W. 119th Street Overland Park

FREE ADMISSION • OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC • BOUNCE HOUSES • GAMES
• SILENT AUCTION • WINE AND
JEWERY PULL • TREATS FROM THE
CHRISTMAS STORE CANDY LADIES •
AND MORE!



Benefiting the 46th Annual Christmas Store

five



# Sunday, June 2nd / After 2nd Service Luther Hall

Join Congregational Life as they host DELIWORKS, a deli style potluck, to welcome the YouthWorks staff to Kansas City and Immanuel!

See the sheets outside the Vestry to sign up to bring food!

# Join Us For... God's work. Our hands.



"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.

### HOLLIS

### Items needed:

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

These items can be placed on the table outside of the elevator lobby starting on Sunday, June 2nd.



### What is Hollis Crossing day camp?

Hollis Crossings Summer Day Camp is a fun, active and faith-filled week during the summer for children grades K-5. During the week, kids run, play, jump, explore the outdoors and make new friends ... while experiencing God's love for all. Hollis receives both staff and day camp program from Camp Tomah Shinga is part of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Network.





# SCHOOL SCHOOL

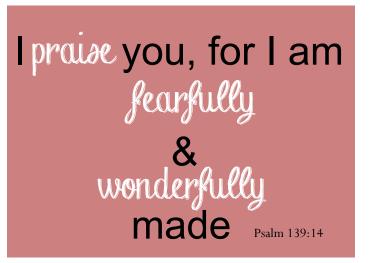
Children's weekly Sunday School takes a break over the summer months but we are planning to gather as a group on a few Sundays over the summer. Parents will be notified soon, by email, of the upcoming summer schedule.



The Sunday School children sang with the choir on May 12th

### 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: <a href="https://get.tithe.ly">https://get.tithe.ly</a>. 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, <a href="mailto:jackumbach@gmail.com">jackumbach@gmail.com</a>.



### From Pastor Micah con't

There is room for legitimate disagreement within the faith, but as soon as we abandon compassion, we abandon what it means to be followers of Christ. Gathered with his disciples for the final time before his death and resurrection, Jesus told them "by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John13:35).

This call to love includes standing in solidarity with women and girls who survive abuse or assault, and face the devastating choice of what to do in the aftermath of that trauma.

We are called to walk with women who will be forced to choose between survival or jail time, when complications of pregnancy threaten their lives. We are called to speak out in love for all people, who have been shamed and condemned and wounded by a debate that weaponizes their suffering.

Friends, we are servants of a Gospel that proclaims God's unfailing grace for all people, and we are invited to be a part of this life-giving work of love. I implore you, whatever your beliefs, to remember this call to compassion.

In Christ,
Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

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