

PARISH NEWS



People of God,

After more than a year of waiting, we are finally starting to return to doing ministry in person. As more and more people get vaccinated, and the spread of COVID-19 hopefully continues to slow, we have reason to hope we're closer to the end of this pandemic than the beginning. We're not out of the woods yet, but we're getting close.

As we return to worshipping together in the sanctuary, things are going to be strange for a time. We're not used to having to sign up to attend worship, or to refrain from shaking hands or hugging. It's going to be a strange time, hearing music but not singing together, or praying without speaking aloud in the sanctuary. Yet despite these differences from the familiar, it is good to be together in physical space again, even as we continue to welcome those who worship online. Our weekly worship will continue to stream on YouTube at 9:30 am every Sunday, and if you want to join us for in-person worship, you can sign up for a time here: <https://rsvp.church/r/sRh0T9Ql>

APRIL
2021
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ISSUE

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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 **May 2021 issue is Friday, April 16, 2021.** 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.

I'm grateful for the mutual support of this community of faith as we navigate uncertain times and unfamiliar practices. A lot of things are not ideal right now, but together we continue to proclaim the grace of God revealed to us in Christ Jesus. So as we begin anew the season of Easter, we look with hope to the future, trusting that one day soon, this plague will be a thing of the past, and we can rejoice together again without worry.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper



HOLY WEEK 2021

April 1 | Maundy Thursday: 7 pm in the sanctuary

April 2 | Good Friday: Noon outdoors at the fire pit

April 2 | Good Friday: 7 pm in the sanctuary

April 3 | Easter Vigil: 7 pm outdoors at the fire pit

April 4 | Easter Sunday: 7 am outdoors at the fire pit

April 4 | Easter Sunday: 9:30 in the sanctuary

April 4 | Easter Sunday: 11 am in Luther Hall

To help us limit any risk:

- Do not attend if you have tested positive for COVID-19, have experienced COVID-like symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive within the past 14 days.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth.
- Practice physical distancing, maintaining 10 feet of separation from other people (except for immediate family members).
- Practice safe hygiene (e.g., coughing or sneezing into your elbow.)
- Openings for worship services are limited, so register in advance at <https://rsvp.church/r/sRh0T9QI>. Don't attend if you haven't registered.
- Remember that bathrooms will not be available for use.

All indoor services will be streamed live on [Immanuel's YouTube channel](#).

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

Council & Executive Committee

STAFF

Micah Sievenpiper - Pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Ann Rundquist - Ministry Coordinator
pastorannrundquist@gmail.com
Cell: 785-643-7697
Ter'Ranay Teague - Administrative Assistant
Suzanne Anderson - Music Director
Robert Barthel - Organist

Connie Benolkin - President
Bonnie Thomas - Vice President
Terry Kueker - Secretary
Kathy Linder - Treasurer
Rick Sundell - Financial Secretary
Henrik Andersen
Melodee Blobaum
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Deborah Crawford
Linda Fewell
Kate Hauber
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members of Immanuel

**Milan Hanson, Dottie Keough, Peg Himebaugh, Larry Taylor, Joe & Lori Clanin,
Rev. Keith Klockau, Andree Cuthbertson, Theresa Draper, Ann Erickson, De Pfofntner,
Naomi Karmeier, Gerry Niewald, Deanne Schlehuber, and Carolyn Wilson.**

All who are separated from loved ones because of COVID-19 restrictions

Friends of Immanuel

Lea Welch, daughter of Karole and John Jacobsen
Jerri Hatteberg, friend of Deborah Crawford
Kathy Johnson, sister of Karole Jacobsen
Jon Hobbie, brother of Linda Fewell
Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Peg Himebaugh
Paula Weir, friend of Betty Pera
Bakeberg Family, friends of Betty Pera
Kat M., Janice M., friends of Peggy Dollard
Lee Hass, grandmother of Catie Tomlin
Baby Reylyn & Family, friends of Peggy Dollard
Major, friend of Linda Taylor & Peggy Dollard
Kim R & Family, friends of Peggy Dollard
Julia Mills, niece of Cece & Tracy Atherton
Rock Westfahl, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Coleman Renoe



Carol Gillespie, friend of Cece & Tracy Atherton
Karen Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor
Liz Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor
Darla Wolters, family of Carmen Norris
Harry Roth, friend of Henrik Andersen
James Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Lauren James, friend of Lori Clanin
Judy Robinson, friend of Mary Jo Moore
Chloe & Carley Engler, great nieces of Sally Baehni
Normajeane Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Margaret Kohler, aunt of Lori Clanin
Jim & Ethel Clanin, parents of Lori Clanin
Pinky Brauer, sister-in-law of Carolyn Brauer
Audrey Mueller, Aunt of Mike Ortmann
Nancy A., friend of Linda Setterburg
Allan Boardman, friend of Kevin and Linda Fewell

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the March 16, 2021, Council Meeting

- Due to Covid-19 restrictions the installation of 2021 Council members was conducted via Zoom. The ceremony was recorded and will be aired during the March 21st YouTube worship service.
- The Council elected the following members as 2021 ILC Officers:
 - President - Connie Benolkin
 - Vice President - Bonnie Thomas
 - Secretary - Terry Kueker
 - Financial Secretary - Rick Sundell
 - Treasurer - Kathy Linder
- Minutes from the February 21, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting were approved, and will be published as part of the 2022 Annual Report.
- Treasurer Kathy Linder advised she is working with our accounting firm to prepare the 2020 Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan forgiveness papers. The amount of the loan was \$26,300.
- Council approved a motion to file for acceptance in the 2021 PPP.
- The Council approved a motion naming Connie Benolkin, Don Arney, Linda Fewell, and BJ Laven to the 2021 Personnel Committee.

CONGRATS NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS!

APRIL READINGS

01	FIRST READING EXODUS 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 PSALM PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19 SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26 GOSPEL JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35
02	FIRST READING ISAIAH 52:13--53:12 PSALM PSALM 22 SECOND READING HEBREWS 10:16-25 GOSPEL JOHN 18:1--19:42
04	FIRST READING ACTS 10:34-43 PSALM PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11 GOSPEL MARK 16:1-8
11	FIRST READING ACTS 4:32-35 PSALM PSALM 133 SECOND READING 1 JOHN 1:1--2:2 GOSPEL JOHN 20:19-31
18	FIRST READING ACTS 3:12-19 PSALM PSALM 4 SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-7 GOSPEL LUKE 24:36B-48
25	FIRST READING ACTS 4:5-12 PSALM PSALM 23 SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:16-24 GOSPEL JOHN 10:11-18

APRIL WORSHIP LEADERS

	ASSISTING MINISTER	PSALMIST	MEDIA TEAM
MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM	Beth Callstrom	Karen Bame	Milan Hanson
GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM	Catie Tomlin	Roland Pera	Milan Hanson
EASTER VIGIL 7PM	Tori Friedrich & Karen Bame	 	
EASTER 7 AM	Kevin Fewell	 	
EASTER 9:30 AM	Tori Friedrich	Linda Taylor	Milan Hanson & Jack Friedrich
EASTER 11:00 AM	Connie Ross	 	
11	Vicki Swanson	Tori Friedrich	Tori & Jack Friedrich
18	Bryan Park	Megan Sawyer	<i>Need volunteer</i>
25	Catie Tomlin	Dave Peterson	<i>Need volunteer</i>

A NOTE FROM PASTOR ANN

SEEDS OF FAITH

1. Theology and Tradition
2. History
3. Discipleship



Parents & Students:

Exciting news coming your way!
Confirmation 2021 will begin soon.
The first Zoom session date will be announced in two weeks.

Questions? Email
pastorannrundquist@gmail.com



All 18+ Immanuel Members:

Would you like to receive HomeTouch Activity Sheets?
Email office@immanuelkc.org to get on the mailing list



JOIN US via Zoom:

Tuesdays at 10am for Coffee & Conversation

Wednesdays at 1pm for Gather Bible Study. For a Gather magazine, email me, pastorannrundquist@gmail.com.



Many many thanks to the wonderful people of Immanuel for providing socks, hats, shoes, undies, hand warmers, gloves and weekly peanut butter sandwiches. It's so appreciated by our fellow brothers and sisters. Another thank you to the Social Ministry Committee for organizing this generous outpouring of love.

MLM Christmas Store needs your new or gently used but no-longer-needed coats

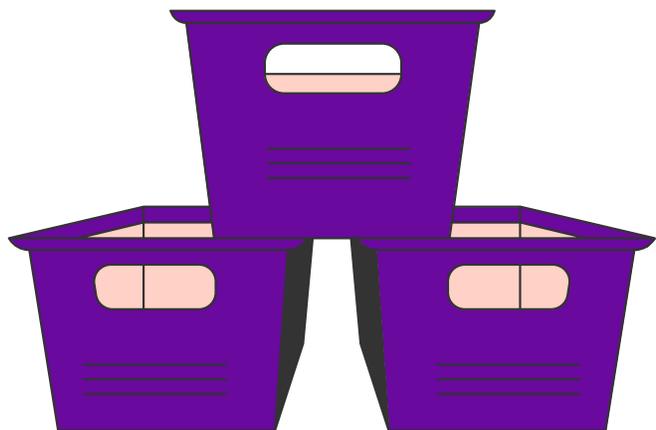
Warm coats are among the most sought after items at the Metro Lutheran Ministry (MLM) Christmas Store. But there never have been enough coats to go around.

You can help change that by donating new or gently used but no-longer-needed coats. Bring them to Immanuel:

- On any Sunday during April if you choose to attend in-person worship. Look for purple donation bins in the upstairs hallway.
- 9 a.m.-noon on either of two Saturdays, April 17 or 24. Members of the social ministry committee will be on the patio outside Immanuel's Bell St. entrance to accept your donations. They will wear masks and observe physical distancing.

"The MLM Christmas Store usually accepts new items only, but it accepts gently used coats because there is so much need," explains Beth Callstrom, who is Immanuel's liaison to MLM. "The store will serve 1,000 families this year and will need about 4,000 coats, so please look in the back of your coat closet, and pull out those coats that the kids have outgrown or those you no longer wear. Or watch the clearance rack at your favorite store for new coats. Your donations will make the holidays brighter and the winter warmer for families that shop at the Christmas Store."

APRIL 17 AND 24
9AM - NOON
PATIO ENTRANCE



Prayer Team Offers Monthly Vespers Services Online

What happens when the ancient practice of evening prayer meets up with modern communication technology?

Monthly vespers services on Zoom, presented by Immanuel's prayer team at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

With fear and anxiety around the pandemic, protests, fires, weather, incivility and the upcoming election mounting in October, the prayer team believed that a community gathering for evening prayer would be helpful. Comforting even. The precedent was already in place: the team had started offering monthly vespers services back in 2019. These in-person services preceded Immanuel's church council meetings and were held in the sanctuary using the ELW Evening Prayer service.

When the services moved online last fall, they took on a slightly different format. The team created a service using a simple liturgy, a psalm, and prayers drawn from the headlines. In addition, the services include a petition for healing that names both the Immanuel members on our prayer list as well as the individual friends and family members for whom prayers have been requested.

Moving vespers to Zoom made it easy for anyone to attend, and the service was kept to 20 minutes or less. Essentially, the services offer a monthly pause for prayer in the company of other Immanuel members.

The services will remain online even after in-person activities resume at Immanuel, in large part because they allow busy or homebound members to join the prayers without having to get in the car and drive to church.

The next service is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 20, on the congregation's main Zoom link.

*** Make prayer requests via email ***

Members of the prayer team pray daily for Immanuel's members and friends as listed on the weekly email update. If you would like the team's members to pray for you privately each day, please send your request to us at ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com

Thanks in part to you, first-ever girls' washroom opens at Mamiloki Primary School in Kenya

The first-ever girls' washroom/bathroom at Mamiloki Primary School in Kenya was dedicated and officially opened March 10. It was funded in large part by Immanuel members' generous donations to the Kenyan Children's Fund.

"For many years, the school had a washroom for boys, but not for girls. That put girls at a disadvantage and, in some cases, kept them from going to school or staying in school for the entire day," says Jimmi Kimuyu, an Immanuel member and one of the founders of the Kenyan Children's Fund (KCF). "With the new washroom, which will serve female students for generations to come, that inequity now is a thing of the past."

Jimmi, who currently is in Mamiloki, supervised construction of the girls' washroom and was there to celebrate its opening with the students and community.

Since 2012, Immanuel donors have been leading contributors to the Kenyan Children's Fund. It provides poverty-stricken children and their guardians in the Mamiloki/Masii area of Kenya with monthly food supplements, crop seeds to enable people to grow their own food, assistance with school tuition and uniforms, goats to provide milk and much-needed income for needy families, a home-repair and construction program through which local people fix crumbling abodes or build their first and only shelters, pallets to keep people from sleeping on dirt floors, vaccinations and other health-care services that are crucial in an area ravaged by HIV/AIDS, and a Kenyan social worker who ensures that contributions meet urgent needs and who reports regularly to the KCF committee at Immanuel.

During 2017, donations to the KCF Water for Life program paid for construction of the region's first well, which now provides drinkable water to the parched region.

"Like the Water for Life program, constructing the girls' washroom was a special project that was possible only because of your generosity," Jimmi says. "The community and the students of Mamiloki Primary School send their gratitude and pray that Almighty God will richly bless you."

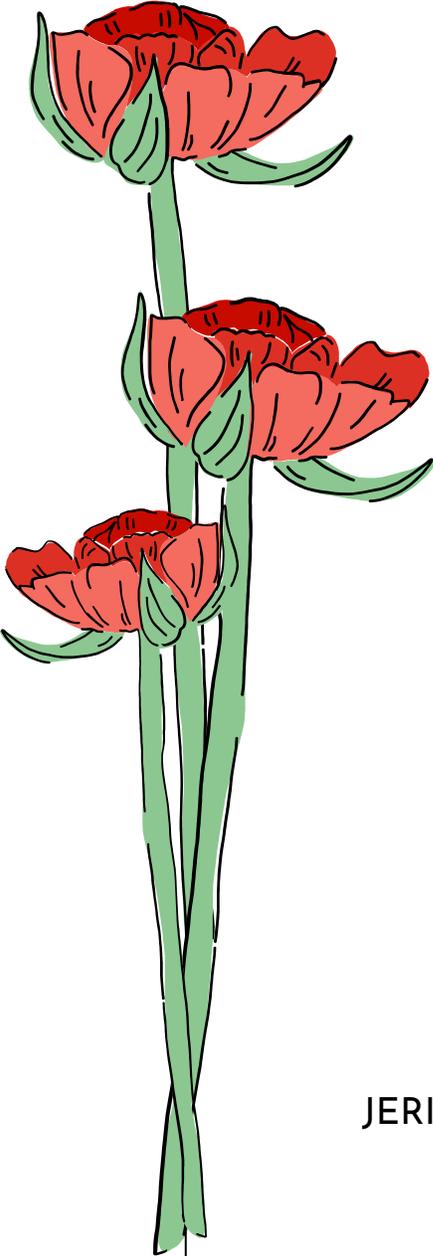


A March 10 dedication and ribbon-cutting marked the official opening of the girls' washroom at Mamiloki Primary School.



A sign outside the girls' washroom expresses gratitude to Immanuel and the Kenyan Children's Fund.

April Birthdays

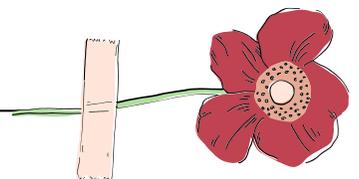


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CECE ATHERTON	4.1
DEL KARMEIER	4.2
KATHY LINDER	4.2
DONALD ROTH	4.2
HOLLY PERA	4.5
DALENE MYERS	4.7
KATHY BOEHMER	4.9
SHARYL SERAFIN	4.9
MATTHEW HASTINGS	4.12
BRIANNE UMBACH	4.13
JERI BLASKE-YUNGBERG	4.14
KRISTEN KVAM	4.14
MICAH SIEVENPIPER	4.14
PATRICIA DURIE	4.15

BETTY PERA	4.15
NIGEL WINKLER	4.15
RHONDA GASSEN	4.21
ANDREW FOX	4.23
ALLISON LESKO	4.23
BRYAN PARK	4.24
ELLEN WILCOX	4.24
TOM GEAR	4.25
SIMONE HOGAN	4.25
DEANNE SCHLEHUBER	4.25
SCOTT THOMPSON	4.25
SALLY GIESCHEN	4.26
TRISTAN MCCOY	4.29
AMANDA ROTHE	4.29
HEATHER UMBACH	4.30

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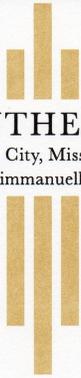
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