

# PARISH NEWS



Every year, we take the time to gather together around a table laden with abundant food and talk intentionally about our ministry together. Annual Meetings are easy to dismiss as dull business, a necessary unpleasantness that we recognize is important, but might not be our favorite way to spend an afternoon. We might recognize the importance of passing a well considered budget, and give thanks for all those who help put it together, but I think for many people, it's not the sort of thing we look forward to, like we might be eager for the coming of Christmas or Easter.

Annual Meetings might not have that draw, but I'm still looking forward to our next one, on Sunday, February 9th, after the 10:30 service. Not just because we have a lot of good cooks here at Immanuel, and the pot-lucks are always delicious, but because once more, we'll have the opportunity to reflect on the last year of ministry. We'll celebrate our joys, name our sorrows, and discern what we might have learned since last winter. We'll look forward to the future of ministry here, we'll lift up new leaders, we'll name our hope that the grace of God will continue to work in our community.

Aside from the official business that must be attended to, what makes these opportunities special is the time we can take to have direct, honest conversations with one another about the direction of our congregation, about what we want our future to look like, and about where we are being called to be the body of Christ in this world. We don't always take the time to ask some of these questions, so I hope that February 9th approaches, you'll give these questions some thought, and come make your voice heard.

We're in this together, all of us living out the Gospel as we're empowered to by the Holy Spirit. I'm looking forward to seeing what God does among us in the year ahead.

In peace,  
Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

## February 2020 IN THIS 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](mailto:office@immanuelkc.org).

Space limitations may require editing of material. Deadline for the March issue is

Thursday, February 20th.

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](mailto:office@immanuelkc.org).

# IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

## Staff

Micah Sievenpiper - Pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Ann Rundquist - Ministry Coordinator

pastorannrundquist@gmail.com

Cell: 785-643-7697

Robert Barthel - Organist

Ter'Raney Teague - Administrative Assistant

Suzanne Anderson - Music Director

Kevin Fewell - Building Manager

## Council & Executive Committee

Mary Jo Moore - **President**

Connie Benolkin - **Vice President**

Terry Kueker - **Secretary**

Mindy Rash - **Treasurer**

Rick Sundell - **Financial Secretary**

Lynden Peters

Scott Thompson

Jack Umbach

Kathy Boehmer

Deborah Crawford

Janie Fee

Kate Hauber

Mason Carey

# IN OUR PRAYERS...

## Members of Immanuel

Theresa Draper | Andree Cuthbertson | De Pfofner

Ann Erickson | Paula Simonich | Naomi Karmeier

Jackie Turner | Deanne Schlehuder | Gerry Niewald

Dee Craig | Gretchen Bishop | Lori Clanin | Carolyn Wilson

## Friends of Immanuel

Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Doug & Peg Himebaugh

Paula & Erin 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

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

Julia Mills, niece of CeCe & Tracy Atherton

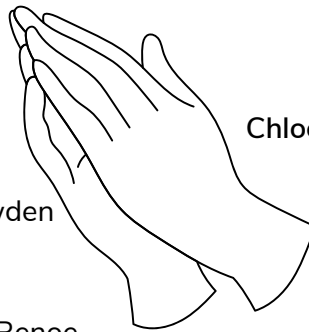
Rock Westfahl, friend of Kevin & Linda Fewell

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

Mike Finn, family of Mary Jo Moore

Kerrington Jones, family of Mary Jo Moore

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 Bachin

Vickie Little, friend of Kevin and Linda Fewell

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

Eric Gustafson, brother of Vicki Swanson

Audrey Mueller, Aunt of Mike Ortmann

Nancy A., friend of Linda Setterburg

Allan Boardman, friend of Kevin and Linda Fewell

# February

# SAT

# FRI

# THURS

# WED

# TUES

# MON

# SUN

**01**  
 9:00a Choral Spectrum **SC**  
 10:00a Shin Do Ryu **LH**  
 3:00p Heartland Violins  
 Rehearsal **SC**  
 5:00p Bryant Birthday  
 Party **LH**

**08**  
 9:00a Bell Choir  
 Rehearsal **SC**  
 10:00a Shin Do Ryu **LH**  
 12:30p Heartland Violins  
 Recital **SC**  
 6:00p English Dancers **LH**

**15**  
 10:00a Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**22**  
 8:30a Altar Guild **SP**  
 9:30a Worship & Arts **SP**  
 10:00a Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**29**  
 10:00a Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**07**  
 7:00p World Folk Dancers

**14**  
 7:00p World Folk Dancers

**21**  
 7:00p World Folk Dancers

**28**  
 7:00p World Folk Dancers

**06**  
 9:00a Homeschool **GS**  
 6:00p Social Ministry  
**The Pressed Penny**  
 7:00p Choral Spectrum **LH**  
 7:00p OA-KC **MRI**

**13**  
 9:00a Homeschool **GS**  
 6:30p Volker General **GS**  
 7:00p Choral Spectrum **LH**  
 7:00p Friends of Literature **SP**  
 7:00p OA-KC **MRI**

**20**  
**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
 9:00a Homeschool **GS**  
 7:00p Choral Spectrum **LH**  
 7:00p OA-KC **MRI**

**05**  
 6:00p Women's Recovery  
 Network **GS**  
 7:00p Symposium **SP**  
 7:00p Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**12**  
 12:00p WELCA **MRI**  
 6:00p Women's Recovery  
 Network **GS**  
 7:00p Symposium **SP**  
 7:00p Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**19**  
 6:00p Women's Recovery  
 Network **GS**  
 7:00p Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**26**  
 12:00p Ash Wed. Early  
 Service **SC**  
 7:00p Ash Wed. Late  
 Service **SC**  
 6:00p Women's  
 Recovery Network **GS**  
 7:00p Shin Do Ryu **LH**

**04**  
 6:00p Soundwave Academy  
**GS**  
 6:00p Executive Committee  
 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers  
**LH**  
 7:00p Committee Night **SP**

**11**  
 6:00p Soundwave Academy  
**GS**  
 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers **LH**

**18**  
 6:00p Soundwave Academy  
**GS**  
 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers **LH**  
 6:30p Vespers Service **SC**  
 7:00p Council Meeting **SP**

**25**  
 1:00p Immanuel Brewing  
 Retreat **LH Kitchen**  
 6:00p Soundwave Academy  
**GS**  
 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers  
**LH**

**03**  
 6:00p Youth Chorus  
**GS LH SP SC**

**10**  
 6:00p Youth Chorus  
**GS LH SP SC**

**17**  
 6:00p Youth Chorus  
**GS LH SP SC**  
 6:30 Midwest Victim  
 Impact **CR**

**24**  
 6:00p Youth Chorus  
**GS LH SP SC**

**02**  
 8:15a Worship  
 9:15a Education Hour  
 10:30a Worship  
 3:00p OA-KC **MRI**  
 6:30p Musica Vocale **SC**

**09**  
 8:15a Worship  
 9:15a Education Hour  
 10:30a Worship  
 International Potluck **LH**  
 Annual Report Meeting  
 3:00p OA-KC **MRI**  
 6:30p Musica Vocale **SC**

**16**  
 8:15a Worship  
 9:15a Education Hour  
 10:30a Worship  
 3:00p OA-KC **MRI**  
 6:30p Musica Vocale **SC**

**23**  
 8:15a Worship  
 9:15a Education Hour  
 10:30a Worship  
 3:00p OA-KC **MRI**  
 6:30p Musica Vocale **SC**

Comunion 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.

# FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## 2 9 16 23

WORSHIP ASSISTANT  
LAY READER  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

KAREN BAME  
JEAN NUERNBERGER  
RICK SUNDELL  
EB WALKER  
LAUREN PARK  
BYRAN PARK  
DESIRAY BOEHMER  
KAREN BAME  
BETH CALLSTROM  
JERRI. B. YUNGERBERG  
SHARY SERAFIN  
JOSIE YUNGERBERG  
KAREN BAME  
LISA HANSEN  
RICK SUNDELL  
ALEX HASTINGS

### 8:15

USHERS  
GREETERS

MIKE ORTMANN  
JEAN NUERNBERGER  
JEAN NUERNBERGER  
BOEHMER FAMILY  
BOEHMER FAMILY  
MELODEE BLOBAUM  
FRIEDRICH FAMILY  
LISA HANSEN AND FAMILY

WORSHIP ASSISTANT  
LAY READER  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

VICKI SWANSON  
LARRY BENOLKIN  
KATHY LINDER-S  
NAM AHRENS  
ANTHONY MAZZA  
BJ LAVEN  
LINDA TAYLOR  
CONNIE ROSS  
MARY ANN CIOCHON - S  
NANCY BECKMANN  
BENNETT KUMM  
MASON KUMM  
CONNIE BENOLKIN  
ELLEN WILCOX-S  
AUDREY PARSON  
JACK FRIEDRICH  
SCOTT THOMPSON  
DAVID PETERSON  
MASON CAREY  
MINDY RASH  
CIARA BOYD  
TERRY KUEKER

ACOLYTE  
CROSS BEARER

MILAN HANSON  
TERRY KUEKER  
LORI KUEKER  
TRACY ATHONTON  
JAY BROWNING  
KEN BECKMANN  
GRETCHEN BISHOP  
CONNIE ROSS  
RICK WILCOX  
JACK UMBACH  
HEATHER UMBACH  
LORI KUEKER  
BILL MOORE  
MARY JO MOORE

### 10:30

USHERS  
GREETERS

GARY AND LOU WHITTIER  
GRETCHEN BISHOP  
MINDY RASH  
BILL AND MARY JO MOORE

# 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

## Next Meeting:

Thursday | February 6th  
6:00 p.m.

The Pressed Penny Tavern  
1511 Westport Road KCMO

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE 2020



### Sock It To Me

February  
2 | 9 | 16 | 23

During the month of February, the Social Ministry committee will be hosting a sock drive for Pastor Ann's ministry, Gathering Table, which serves poor and homeless individuals and families in northeast Kansas City. Warm socks are needed for men, women, and children.

Look for the purple bins outside the Vestry.

### Greeting Card Sale

March 15 | 22 | 29 April 5



Greeting cards feature artwork supplied by ILC's Sunday school students. Proceeds from the sale will go to Lutheran Disaster Response

### MLM's 3B Event

March 27 | 6:30 - 10:30p

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. Tickets - \$25 each  
For information: 816-285-3141

### Christmas in July

July 5 | 12 | 19 | 26



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 13

Look for information mid-year regarding this year's activities

God's Work.  
Our Hands.  
Sunday

### CROP Hunger Walk Sign Up

September 13 | 20 | 27

October 4 | 11

You may participate by walking or making a donation to support ILC walkers. Our donations benefit people in our local community, as well as folks around the globe who struggle with hunger. This year's walk is scheduled Sunday, October 11, 2020



### MLM Christmas Store

November 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29

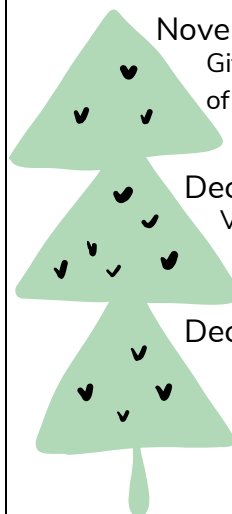
Gift donations are accepted through the entire month of November for families in the KC Area

December 6 | 7 | 8

Volunteer to set up and stock the Store

December 9 | 10 | 11 | 12

Volunteer to greet guests, restock the floor, and/or become a shopping assistant for KC families.



### Get Down and Derby

May 2 | 4:00-8:00p

A Kentucky Derby Watch Party and Benefit at Union Horse Distilling Company. Supports the MLM Christmas Store.  
mlmkc.org for more information & tickets

### Feeding 800

April 12 | 19 | 26 May 3 | 10 | 17



Ingathering of nonperishable food items for MLM's Sack Lunch program with a packing event on May 17th

# UPCOMING at ILC

## Every Sunday in February

During the month of February, the Social Ministry committee will be hosting a sock drive for Pastor Ann's ministry, Gathering Table at Children's Memorial, which serves poor and homeless individuals and families in northeast Kansas City. Warm socks are needed for men, women, and children.

**Beginning Sunday, February 2nd, purple collection bins will be available outside the Vestry.**



### February 27, 2020 7:00p Bier Station



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**

### March 27, 2020 6:30p Boulevard Brewing

Join MLM supporters at Boulevard Brewing Company for the 8th annual 3B fundraiser to partake in local brew and wine, delicious BBQ from Three Pigs BBQ, and basketball! This event raises funds and awareness for MLM's emergency food programs in Kansas City, MO, Kansas City, KS, and North Kansas City.



**For more information call 816.285.3154 or go to [mlmkc.org](http://mlmkc.org).**

**This event fills quickly...**

### March 15 | 22 | 29 & April 5

The Social Ministry Committee will be selling every day cards following both worship services beginning Sunday, March 15th through Palm Sunday, April 5th. These handmade cards feature artwork provided by our Sunday school students. The cards are sold in packs of 5 for \$10. Proceeds from the sale will be 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.

**Be sure to stop by and check out the cards at the table outside of the Spong Common Room, across from the Vestry doorway.**

Greeting  
Card  
Sale

# February Birthdays

Ann Olson	2/1		
Elisabeth Harris	2/5		
Megan Sawyer	2/6		
Ted Moore	2/7	Bennett Kumm	2/17
Naomi Karmeier	2/9	Vivian Kieslich	2/18
Bill Gassen	2/10	Sutton Callstrom	2/20
Sally Baehni	2/11	Carol Powers	2/20
Randy Callstrom	2/12	Lori Kueker	2/21
Anthony Mazza	2/12	Don Arney	2/22
Clark Simonich	2/14	Kevin Fewell	2/22
Brenda Kumm	2/15	Wilbur Niewald	2/22
Audrey Pfeiffer	2/15	Bonnie Thomas	2/22
Nam Ahrens	2/16	Josie Yungeberg	2/22
		Everett Hedeem	2/23
		Nathan Kennedy	2/23
		Evan Velasco	2/26
		Rebecca Callstrom	2/28



## Adult Forum

Feb 2	Holy Land - Mary Jo Moore
Feb 9	Egypt - Larry Benolkin
Feb 16	Wisdom from a Muslim Perspective
Feb 23	100 Year Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote

## Immanuel Brewing Retreat

Feb. 25 | 1 - 5 pm

Luther Hall Kitchen

Join us as we prepare for our Lenten fast by brewing beer in the monastic tradition of the Trappists! We'll pray, learn, and talk together, and look forward to drinking the water, barley, yeast and hops transformed into something new after the Easter Vigil.

Brewing beer is an ancient practice, that began with the earliest known civilizations. Monasteries were brewing beer as early as the 6th century as a form of potable water. In time, it was made in larger volumes with the intent of sharing it outside of the monastery walls. To this day, Trappist monasteries continue this ancient art of brewing beer, and we'll draw on their tradition to inform and inspire our own Lenten journey.



# A NOTE FROM Pastor Ann

**Confirmation:** This month Confirmation class has studied the Lord's Prayer using the Small and Large Catechism and other materials.

**Bible Study Armour Oaks:** We followed Gospels from Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany and now venture out into baptism and commemorations: Andrew and Martin Luther King, Jr; Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe; Paul; and Philip. Thank you to Janie Fee for joining us January 23.

**WELCA:** We met on January 8 to start our three part bible study "We Are Called." We read from 1 Samuel, Isaiah, 2 Kings, Judges, and Jeremiah. Each month we recognize our brothers and sisters facing challenges and share stories of faith and joy. Please join us for fellowship, study, and prayer.

**Bach Cantata Vespers:** What a beautiful worship service Pastor Micah and Suzanne Anderson led on January 26th. Words and music of prayer and thanksgiving filled the sanctuary for Evening Prayer. Thank you to the leaders, musicians, donors, and WELCA for the lovely reception.

*Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path...now and forever more. Amen*



# welca

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
THE ILC WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:

## We Are Called!

### 02 12 2020

WED NOON

Bring your own lunch

**READINGS:**

Mark 1:16-20

Mark 3:13-19

Acts 9:1-30

Mark 2:13-17

Acts 7:52-8:3

Mark 8:27-9:1



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## Highlights of the January 21, 2020, Council Meeting

- January committee reports were reviewed and accepted.
- Pastor Micah reviewed his report and referenced the ongoing work of the Steering Committee. He also reminded members of upcoming events: Mary Hunt's memorial service and the Bach Cantata service. His report was approved as discussed.
- Mindy Rash (Treasurer) led a discussion regarding the designated accounts listed in the budget. They are not fully funded at this time. She will make a footnote in the 2020 budget indicating this and that the accounts will be funded when needed. Her report was approved as discussed.
- Mindy Rash presented a response to the Audit Committee's recommended changes report for 2018. She will follow-up as needed.
- The Annual Meeting will be held in Luther Hall Sunday, February 9th following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sally Baehni will be in attendance to present the 2020 proposed budget. Kate Hauber will be giving an update on the recent loan agreement with Mission Investment Fund. An International Potluck will precede the meeting.
- Purple Dragon Day Care's lease renewal was recently completed.
- Scott Thompson was thanked for his two-term council service. In addition to setting up partnership with the Purple Dragon Day Care, Scott has also been a liaison for outside groups that meet at Immanuel. Thank you Scott!



INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

before the Annual Meeting  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020

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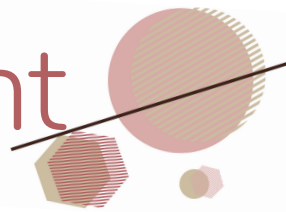
**Annual Meeting** ∴

∴ **FEBRUARY 9, 2020**

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**After the Potluck**

# From the President



The Lenten season is nearly upon us! Ash Wednesday is February 26 and we begin our forty (40) days of reflection, repentance and contemplation. During this time, we are encouraged to replicate Jesus's sacrifice and withdrawal into the wilderness of Judea. We are to turn from sin and be faithful to the Gospel message. We are to resist temptations and rely on God above all else.

Jesus did not have to turn from sin like we do because he was the sinless Son of God. Not much is known about his "growing up" years, but we know that at about age thirty his public ministry began. Jesus first was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. His baptism was an act of obedience to God's purposes. Soon after Jesus retreated to the Judean wilderness to fast and to pray for forty days and forty nights. He was visited by Satan who tried to tempt him. Resisting those efforts, he traveled 128 miles to Galilee where he started preaching, gathering his apostles and doing his mission work. No easy life for Jesus! Traveling was much different back then, harder and very physically demanding.

When in the Holy Lands, I visited the Jordan River at a place called Qasr-El-Yehud, which, according to tradition, is the site where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. It is located about 77 miles south of



Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus. He would have walked there or, perhaps, ridden a donkey. The terrain is dry, dusty, sometimes flat and other times high mountains and low valleys. I was struck by how inhospitable the area was. Needless to say, there was little water besides the river. About 7 miles away was the Wadi Qelt; this is where we had our "wilderness" experience, starting with a short service and ending with ashes on our foreheads. Then over the next forty minutes we were left to meditate silently at a place we chose nearby.

It was so quiet there and not at all comfortable. The sun shone brightly. There was no shade. The mountains were steep and rocky, the valleys low. Walking was difficult. I tried to imagine Jesus during his forty days and forty nights there, wandering around alone, no food or water, defenseless. How did he survive? Jesus survived by relying on God above all else and being obedient to His will.

*Dear Lord, may we rely on you above all else and be obedient to your will. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.*





# BACH CANTATA VESPERS

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS

CANTATA 150

*“Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich”  
For Thee, O Lord, I Long*

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SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH

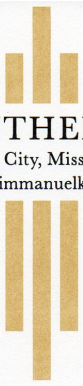
**7:00 P.M.**

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No cost to attend

A free will offering will be gathered

Reception to follow



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1700 Westport Road ■ Kansas City, Missouri 64111 ■ 816-931-8483  
[www.immanuelkc.org](http://www.immanuelkc.org)

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