

# PARISH NEWS



“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” - Isaiah 43:19

I have always loved the books of J.R.R. Tolkien. Ever since I first stumbled into a world of adventure in *The Hobbit*, I have held a love for middle earth and its peoples, as they struggled against evil and fought for the good of all, even if they didn't always see eye to eye. One thing that drew me in was just how ancient and alive the world felt, even as there was a melancholy backdrop of what had been lost. *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy takes place at the end of an age, and the dawn of another, and even though (spoiler alert) our brave heroes were ultimately victorious in their quest, that victory comes at a cost. They were able to do amazing things, but they could not return to to the past.

That is true for us, in a lot of ways. As we hopefully near the end of the pandemic, we long to return to normal, but that doesn't mean we can return to the past. As a church, we often do amazing things, but as much as we might pine for the "good old days," we can't turn back the clock. Nostalgia can tempt us to look to the past, but God call us to look to the future with hope.

There's nothing wrong with looking to the past, celebrating the good times, and learning from the bad and the ugly, but our hearts are meant for the future, where God promises a new creation will be found.

In Peace,  
Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

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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 **June 2021 issue is June 15, 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](mailto:office@immanuelkc.org).

# HELLO FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

*Tending Our Garden*



We have lots to share with you. For one thing, we have a theme! Expect to see our logo “Tending Our Garden” throughout the year. Watch for it as it signifies upcoming activities for which all are invited. Friends too!

There is at least one event already planned. Hint...see if you can find it elsewhere in this newsletter!

We chose “Tending Our Garden” because gardening is a good metaphor for thinking about our own growth in the Lord as individuals and our growth as a community of faith united in Jesus Christ.

Gardeners know the importance of preparing the garden after an extremely harsh winter. (I think we can all agree the past year of Covid-19 qualifies as an “extremely harsh” winter.) Preparation involves checking the beds, assessing damage, removing debris, and testing the soil, among other activities. Plans are made for the upcoming growing season, including plants to be removed, transplanted and pruned, and those to be grown from seeds and those to be purchased. Then there is the inevitable work of cultivating the soil, moving plantings for optimum sun and shade, planting the seeds, and preparing for the upkeep and overall care. With Christ the landowner of the Church/Garden, we are entrusted with serving as gardener/caretaker, a role shared by all who love the church.

We must remain vigilant in our efforts. An unattended garden can fall prey to weeds that stunt growth and bugs that invade and destroy the plants entirely. No harvest can come from an unattended garden. Gardens only flourish under the watchful care of a gardener!

Throughout this year the Stewardship Committee will lead the charge of tending the garden that is Immanuel. This includes our people, our property, and our neighbors. Plans are underway to focus on the many and varied ways Immanuel members invest their time and energy out of sacrificial devotion to the potential they see in “our garden”. We would love to have more members join us in these efforts. If interested, please contact Mary Jo Moore at [maryjom50@gmail.com](mailto:maryjom50@gmail.com) or call/text at 816/309-7858.

Your Stewardship Committee:

Cece Atherton

Mary Jo Moore, Chair

Micah Sievenpiper, Pastor

Rick Sundell

Linda Taylor

Heather Winker

# WORSHIP AT IMMANUEL

## In Person:

Please 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.)



## Streaming Online:

All indoor services will be streamed live on Immanuel's YouTube channel which you can access via this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/immanuelkansascity>



# JUNE READINGS

06

**FIRST READING** GENESIS 3:8-15  
**PSALM** PSALM 130  
**SECOND READING** 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-5:1  
**GOSPEL** MARK 3:20-35

13

**FIRST READING** EZEKIEL 17:22-24  
**PSALM** PSALM 92:1-4, 12-15  
**SECOND READING** 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10 (11-13), 14-17  
**GOSPEL** MARK 4:26-34

20

**FIRST READING** JOB 38:1-11  
**PSALM** PSALM 107:1-2, 23-32  
**SECOND READING** 2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-13  
**GOSPEL** MARK 4:35-41

27

**FIRST READING** LAMENTATIONS 3:22-33  
**PSALM** PSALM 30  
**SECOND READING** 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15  
**GOSPEL** MARK 5:21-43

# JUNE

## WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

06

**Assisting Minister:** Bryan Park

**Psalmist:** Connie Benolkin

**Media Team:** Kevin Fewell

13

**Assisting Minister:** Vicki Swanson

**Psalmist:** Karen Bame

**Media Team:** Tori & Jack Friedrich

20

**Assisting Minister:** Tori Friedrich

**Psalmist:** Roland Pera

**Media Team:** Michael Hamlin

27

**Assisting Minister:** Dave Peterson

**Psalmist:** Linda Taylor

**Media Team:** Milan Hanson

# IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

## Council & Executive Committee

### STAFF

**Micah Sievenpiper - Pastor**  
msievenpiper@gmail.com  
**Ann Rundquist - Ministry Coordinator**  
pastorannrundquist@gmail.com  
**Sunni Battin - 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 Pfofner, Naomi Karneier, Gerry Niewald, Deanne Schlehuber, Tracy Atherton, and Carolyn Wilson.**

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

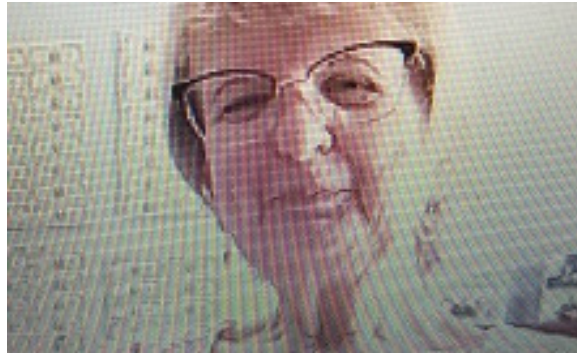
### Friends of Immanuel

**Lea Welch**, daughter of Karole and John Jacobsen  
**Jerri Hatteberg**, friend of Deborah Crawford  
**Kathy Johnson**, sister of Karole Jacobsen  
**Jon Hobble**, 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  
**Harrell Roe**, for Karole Jacobsen  
**Patience Robb & Fran Robb & Family**



**Carol Gillespie**, friend of Cece & Tracy Atherton  
**Karen Wuertz**, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor  
**Liz Wuertz**, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor  
**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  
**Chris Klockau**, for Keith Klockau

# KAROLE JACOBSEN WINS WRITING AWARD



Karole Jacobsen was awarded GFWC Art & Literature Club, of Parkville, for outstanding achievement in the category of Writing - Member Contest - 2020 by the General Federation of Women's clubs of Missouri, Inc. (GFWC)

Her short story, "Mr. J" took first place and was presented at the 2021 convention.

As a side note, her short story was forwarded to the national GFWC writing contest (an international organization with headquarters in Washigton, D.C.).

"Mr. J" was Karole's brother-in-law and husband of her sister, Kathy.

Congratulations Karole!

# UPCOMING WELCA BIBLE STUDIES



Every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>  
Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

## June 2, 9, 16, and 23:

Just L.I.F.E. (Liberation Is For Everyone)

Pages 20-25 in *gather* Magazine - A Ministry of WELCA

## June 30:

Let's Love, Put Justice on the Map

Pages 36-37 in *gather* Magazine - A Ministry of WELCA

Please contact Pastor Ann with questions  
or if you would like a copy of the magazine:  
[pastorannrundquist@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannrundquist@gmail.com)

Please Note: To subscribe to the magazine, please visit:  
[www.gathermagazine.org](http://www.gathermagazine.org)

## FORTHCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Upcoming Bible Studies:

For more information, please visit the  
following link:

<https://www.gathermagazine.org/bible-study/upcoming-bible-studies/>





# TENDING OUR GARDEN

*A Spotlight On...*

## WESTPORT MINISTRY IN HOUSING



You might recognize the building in this photo – a 90-unit apartment building a few blocks from Immanuel on Mill Street, just off Southwest Trafficway. But you may not know its name – Westport House Apartments, home to people who need and appreciate our care.

Westport Ministry in Housing is a not-for-profit that owns and oversees the management of Westport House with a mission to provide elderly and handicapped persons safe and affordable housing. The organization was founded in 1983 by three Westport-area churches: Westport Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal and Immanuel Lutheran, with members of each church serving on its board of directors. Karen Bame, Kathy Linder, Jean Nuernberger, Connie Ross, Rick Sundell and Marc Winkler currently represent Immanuel and provide guidance to ensure the continued success of the organization.

Westport House is more than subsidized housing. It provides a safe, caring environment that encourages interaction among residents. Westport Ministry in Housing is an example of the garden we have been tending at Immanuel for many years.

*They are planted in  
the house of the Lord;  
they flourish in the  
courts of our God.*

PSALM 92:13

**\*To demonstrate how Immanuel is "Tending our Garden" we highlight organizations that we support with our time, talent and/or funding.**

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the May 20, 2021, Council Meeting

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·We're continuing to adapt worship processes to suit the local Covid-19 situation – The Pastor's Advisory Committee meets on 5/26 to review our current status and improvements to video and sound equipment for live streaming are ongoing.

·The Steering Committee has made significant progress on drafting a vision for a ministry document – The congregation will be encouraged to share reactions and feedback once the draft is shared in the coming months.

·Council approved the formation of a Justice and Peace Task Force which will coordinate and lead the congregation's efforts to respond to injustice in our world.

# GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

On Sunday, Sept. 12, congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will come together for "God's work. Our hands."

Our church — and our world — continue to live through the COVID-19 pandemic. But the good news is that we are beginning to experience a slow return to physical community as more people become vaccinated. We look forward to gathering with family and friends once again to share God's love in person.

Amid this ongoing situation, we continue to be church together. Across the ELCA we are witnessing the love and concern God's people have for one another. During this time, our congregations continue to support ministries that assist vulnerable people in their communities.

As church, we are guided by our life in Christ to share the love of Jesus and serve our neighbors — even if these acts of service take place from our homes or from a safe distance.

Sharing the love of Christ through service to our neighbors is work you do every day. We look forward to "God's work. Our hands." Sunday and doing this work together again this year.

**Saturday, Sept. 11 & Sunday, Sept. 12 - Pack lunches for MLM and Gathering Table after worship. Food collection starts in July. Watch for more announcements.**

**Saturday, Sept. 11 - Serve lunch at Gathering Table or help organize the pantry from 9:30 a.m. - noon.**

**Lunch will already be prepared when you arrive. Serving lunch to 40 hungry people is a great service and visiting with the guests helps understand the root causes of hunger.**



# IMMANUEL FRIENDS



Do you enjoy visiting with Immanuel Friends? Join the teleministry team by calling several people each month for a visit. I enjoy the visits and learn so much about their lives.

Please send an email to [pastorannrundquist@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannrundquist@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

**F Y I**



**SPRUCE-UP DAY:**

Stewardship in consultation with Property is hosting a "Spruce-up Day" on Saturday, June 5, starting at 8:30 am, weather-permitting. Latecomers are welcome too. We anticipate working outdoors until noon-1 pm and expect volunteers will come and go, depending on their schedules. All are welcome!

Watch for more specific information in the weekly announcements. If interested and willing to help, contact the church office, leaving your name, email address, and phone number. Thank you!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Immanuel members added nutrients to our soil when contributing funds to the water leak repair project. This appeal raised \$11,000, which fixed the problem and added funds to the emergency repair account.

GS = GATHERING SPACE  
CR = CHOIR ROOM  
MRI = MEETING ROOM 1

SC = SANCTUARY \* = ZOOM  
LH = LUTHER HALL  
SP = SPONG ROOM

JUNE

## 01. TUES

10a Coffee & Conversation\*  
6p Executive Committee\*

## 03. THURS

3:30p Choral Spectrum KC **LH**  
7p Social Ministry Committee\*  
7p Happy Hour\*  
7p OA-KC **MR1**

## 04. FRI

3:30p Choral Spectrum KC **LH**

## 05. SAT

8:30a Property Work Day (**Church**)

## 06. SUN

9:30a Worship  
10a Bible Study\*  
12:00p Worship  
3:00p OA-KC **MR1**

## 08. TUES

10a Coffee & Conversation\*  
6:30p Choral Spectrum KC **LH**  
7:15p Steering Committee\*

## 10. THURS

6:30a Choral Spectrum KC **LH**  
7p OA-KC **MR1**  
7p Happy Hour\*

## 13. SUN

9:30a Worship  
10a Bible Study\*  
12:00p Worship  
3:00p OA-KC **MR1**

## 15. TUES

10a Coffee & Conversation\*  
6:30p Monthly Vespers Service\*  
7p Council Meeting\*

## 17. THURS

6:30p Choral Spectrum KC **LH**  
7p Happy Hour\*  
7p OA-KC **MR1**

## 20. SUN

9:30a Worship  
10a Bible Study\*  
12:00p Worship  
3:00p OA-KC **MR1**

## 22. TUES

10a Coffee & Conversation\*

## 24. THURS

6:30a Choral Spectrum KC **LH**  
7p OA-KC **MR1**  
7p Theology on Tap\*  
7p Happy Hour\*

## 27. SUN

9:30a Worship  
10a Bible Study\*  
10:30a Property Committee **Conf Rm**  
12:00p Worship  
3:00p OA-KC **MR1**

## 29. TUES

10a Coffee & Conversation\*

## 30. WED

7:30p Advisory Committee\*

**\*Events are posted as the office has them.**



# JUNE B-DAY



MARY ANN CLOCHON 6/2

KAI MCCARTER 6/4

ADAM ROUSE 6/6

WILLIAM GASSEN 6/8

LORI CLANIN 6/11

LISA THOMSEN 6/12

JORDAN HIRSEKORN 6/16

SAMANTHA ELLERBECK 6/17

MIKE BOEHMER 6/18

RICK CRAWFORD 6/19

LISA HANSEN 6/21

KARIN JOHNSON 6/21

LYDIA THOMSEN 6/23

SARA WU 6/26

ELIZABETH HASTINGS 6/27

MIKE KENNEDY 6/27

ELISE GASSEN 6/28

KATE HAUBER 6/29

ROGER GIESCHEN 6/30

ROLAND PERA 6/30

*Happy Birthday*





## **JOIN TITHE.LY**

Immanuel Lutheran's online tithe & donation tool.

Download the app or sign up via their website  
for safe and secure donations.

### **FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS**



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Search for Immanuel KC



Donate

### **CLICK BELOW TO GET STARTED**

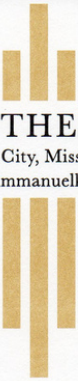


Online



Get the app





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