

# PARISH NEWS

## FROM PASTOR MICAH



We live in a time of deep conflict, with bitter divisions growing wider by the day. There's nothing new or controversial about that claim, it's been the subject of probably too many articles and blog posts, and maybe writing this doesn't help with that, but it's been especially noticeable for me these past few weeks. It's jarring to go from hearing Christmas carols singing joyfully about peace on earth and kindness towards others, followed immediately by vitriolic facebook rants. It's disorienting to go from watching a Christmas movie, or special holiday episode of just about any TV show, that all talk about keeping the spirit of Christmas alive throughout the year, only to have that hope dashed a moment later, when an argument breaks out about politics.

The usual stance leaders in the church makes, when it comes to deep division, is that we should stand somewhere in the middle, bridging the divide. We are called to be peacemakers, after all, and what better way to make peace, than by calling for healing in the midst of discord? But just because there are two sides on any given debate doesn't mean that those sides are always equal.

It's easier to stay above the fray, calling for civility and kindness, both of which are things we could use a lot more of these days, but there are times where we are called to take a stand. Mary certainly had no problems making her voice heard "[God] has brought down the powerful from their thrones," she sings in Luke's gospel, "and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty." (Luke 1:52-53)

We are called to proclaim the good news of God's grace that is for all people, and sometimes that good news topples systems of oppression that are unjust, even if we benefit from them ourselves. Sometimes the work of peacemaking means not backing down from conflict, when the dignity of our fellow human beings is under siege. The incarnation was a subversive act, our God coming to dwell among us not among the rich in the halls of power in Rome, but in Palestine, in the least of the cities of Ephrathah, Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). God dwells among us as a companion to the unworthy, the people forced to the margins—lepers and convicts, sinners and beggars.

I hope we don't forget the call we hear in the Christmas season, to live out the good news of God's grace, that promises healing to a broken creation.

## January 2020

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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 January 2019 issue is Thursday, December 12th.

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

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**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**

**Jackie Turner | Deanne Schlehuder | Gerry Niewald**

**Dee Craig | Gretchen Bishop | Carolyn Wilson**

### Friends of Immanuel

Jack & Mary Kantola, friends of Doug & Peg Himebaugh

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

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

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

Vickie Little, friend of Kevin and Linda Fewell

Eric Gustafson, brother of Vicki Swanson

Audrey Mueller, Aunt of Mike Ortmann

Nancy A., friend of Linda Setterburg



Karen Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor

Liz Wuertz, sister-in-law of Linda Taylor

Larry Byrom, brother of Dean Byrom

Richard Dryg, brother of Connie Benolkin

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

Normajean 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

Allan Boardman, friend of Kevin and Linda Fewell

# JANUARY

SUN MON TUES WED THURS FRI SAT

04	10:00a Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b> 10:30a Prayer Team Meeting <b>SP</b>	03	6:30p World Folk Dancers <b>LH</b>	02	7:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b>	01	6:00p Women's Recovery Network <b>GS</b> 7:00p Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>		
11	10:00a Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b> 10:00a Choral Spectrum <b>GS</b>	10	6:30p World Folk Dancers <b>LH</b>	09	9:00a Homeschool <b>GS</b> 4:00p Choral Spectrum <b>LH</b> 6:00p Social Ministry Meeting   <b>Genghis Khan</b> 6:30p Volker General Meeting <b>GS</b> 7:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b>	08	12:00p WELCA <b>MRI</b> 6:00p Women's Recovery Network <b>GS</b> 7:00p Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>	07	6:00p Executive Committee <b>CR</b> 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers <b>LH</b> 7:00p Committee Meeting Night <b>SP</b>
18	9:00 Bach Vespers Rehearsal <b>SC</b> 10:00a Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>	17	6:30p World Folk Dancers <b>LH</b>	16	<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 9:00a Homeschool <b>GS</b> 7:00p Choral Spectrum <b>LH</b> 7:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b>	15	6:00p Women's Recovery Network <b>GS</b> 7:00p Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>	14	6:00p Soundwave Academy <b>GS</b> 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers <b>LH</b>
25	8:30a Altar Guild <b>SP</b> 9:00a Bach Vespers Rehearsal <b>SC</b> 9:30a Worship & the Arts <b>SP</b> 10:00a Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b> 10:00a Women's Equality Coalition <b>GS</b>	24	6:30p World Folk Dancers <b>LH</b>	23	9:00a Homeschool <b>GS</b> 7:00p Choral Spectrum <b>LH</b> 7:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b> 7:00p Theology on Tap <b>Bier Station</b>	22	6:00p Women's Recovery Network <b>GS</b> 7:00p Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>	21	6:00p Soundwave Academy <b>GS</b> 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers <b>LH</b> 6:30p Vespers Service <b>SC</b> 7:00p Council Meeting <b>SP</b>
		31	6:30p World Folk Dancers <b>LH</b>	30	9:00a Homeschool <b>GS</b> 7:00p Choral Spectrum <b>LH</b> 7:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b>	29	6:00p Women's Recovery Network <b>GS</b> 7:00p Shin Do Ryu Karate <b>LH</b>	28	6:00p Soundwave Academy <b>GS</b> 6:30p Scandinavian Dancers <b>LH</b>
								27	6:00p Youth Chorus KC <b>LH SP GS SC</b>
								26	8:15a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 3:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b> 5:00p Bach Vespers Service <b>SC</b>
								20	6:00p Youth Chorus KC <b>LH SP GS SC</b> 6:30p Midwest Victim Impact <b>CR</b>
								19	8:15a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 3:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b> 6:30p Musica Vocale <b>SC</b>
								13	8:15a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 3:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b> 6:30p Musica Vocale <b>SC</b>
								06	8:15a Worship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship 3:00p OA-KC <b>MRI</b> 6:30p Musica Vocale <b>SC</b>

# January WORSHIP SCHEDULE

5 12 19 26

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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT  
LAY READER  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

KAREN BAME  
JERRI B. YUNGBERG  
SHARYL SERAFIN  
JOSIE B. YUNGBERG

LINDA FOX  
LISA HANSEN  
KAREN BAME  
ELI RODDY

LAUREN PARK  
BRYAN PARK  
EB WALKER  
RICK SUNDELL

BETH CALLSTROM  
MELODEE BLOBAUM  
KAREN BAME  
ALEX HASTINGS

8:15

USHERS  
GREETERS

PAM EDVALDS  
MIKE ORTMANN  
PAM EDVALDS  
MATT HASTINGS  
HASTINGS FAMILY

DEE CRAIG  
ELIZABETH HASTINGS  
DON ARNEY

WORSHIP ASSISTANT  
LAY READER  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS  
ACOLYTE  
CROSS BEARER

TORI FRIEDRICH  
LINDA FOX  
HEATHER WINKER-S  
NAM AHRENS  
JACK FRIEDRICH  
LYNDEN PETERS  
MIKE BOEHMER  
KATHY BOEHMER  
KELLE BOEHMER  
MICHAEL HAMLIN

JEFF FOX  
VICKI SWANSON  
LINDA TAYLOR-S  
DESRAY BOEHMER  
ZACH BOYD  
MASON CAREY  
DEL KARMEIER  
CECE ATHERTON  
KATE HAUBER  
KEN ROSS  
ELLIE MCCARTER

LINDA TAYLOR  
KATE HAUBER  
MILAN HANSON-S  
CONNIE BENOKIN  
CHARLEY FRIEDRICH  
MILAN HANSON  
CHRIS ROTH  
KEVIN FEWELL  
LINDA FEWELL  
BOB HYLAND

JOHN ANDERSON  
MIKE FEE  
GRETCHEN BISHOP-S  
KYLE BOEHMER  
TRYSTIN MORGAN  
KYLE BOEHMER  
MARK WINKLER  
PATTI WINKLER  
RANDY CALLSTROM  
BJ LAVEN

GREETERS

CARMEN NORRIS

CECE ATHERTON

LINDA FEWELL

MARC & PATTI WINKLER

10:30

USHERS

MIKE BOEHMER  
KATHY BOEHMER  
KELLE BOEHMER  
MICHAEL HAMLIN

DEL KARMEIER  
CECE ATHERTON  
KATE HAUBER  
KEN ROSS  
ELLIE MCCARTER

CHRIS ROTH  
KEVIN FEWELL  
LINDA FEWELL  
BOB HYLAND

MARK WINKLER  
PATTI WINKLER  
RANDY CALLSTROM  
BJ LAVEN

# 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 | January 9, 2020  
 6:00p  
 Genghis Khan  
 3906 Bell St  
 Kansas City, MO 64111

## 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

### Feeding 800

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



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

**June TBD**

### MLM Summer Breakout

Family event that supports MLM's annual Christmas Store Holy Cross Lutheran Church



### 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**

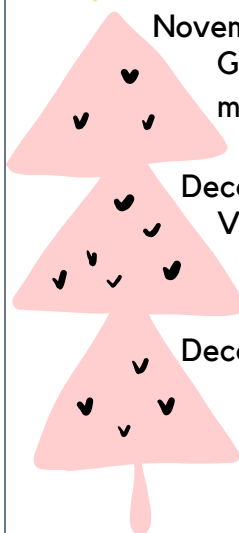
Gift donations are accepted through the entire month of November for families in the KC Area

**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.



# many thanks



Thank you for contributing to the success of the 2019 MLM Christmas Store. Approximately **875** families were served from the Kansas City area! Whether you helped with the client intake process, prepped Immanuel in the weeks leading up to the store, shopped for donations, carried gifts from MLM and area churches into our building, organized and counted gifts by category, set up the Christmas store, baked cookies, greeted and assisted shoppers, passed out refreshments to folks as they waited to shop, took down the store and cleaned up...your volunteer efforts were greatly appreciated! Together, we helped to brighten the holiday season for many families in Kansas City.

Again...THANK YOU!

Looking ahead - as you shop after-holiday sales, keep in mind that Immanuel will be gathering donations for next year's Christmas Store during our annual *MLM Christmas in July* event. Now is a great time to pick up winter clothing, personal gifts, toys, and household items at bargain prices!



# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Elin Myers	1/4	Nancy Beckmann	1/15
Margaret Park	1/4	Beth Callstrom	1/18
Karen Bame	1/6	Cody Tomlin	1/21
Alex Peters	1/8	Melodee Blobaum	1/22
Kenny Ross	1/8	Larry Benolkin	1/24
Brian Thomas	1/9	Rick Sundell	1/25
Joseph Noernberg	1/11	Doug Gossick	1/26
Colin Fewell	1/12	Jay Browning	1/27
B.J. Laven	1/12	Audrey Parson	1/29
Stacia Peters	1/14	Steven Swanson	1/31

## Sunday School News

The Adult Forum, WELCA, and Children's Sunday School donated many items to make Christmas gift bags for some Immanuel members and residents at Armour Oaks Senior Living. We gathered together on 12/15 to make the gift bags and write notes to those we miss seeing each Sunday! Though the snowy weather kept some people home, our gathering was a happy one, and we hope the bags brought a little joy this past Advent season!

We look forward to seeing everyone when we gather again on January 5, 2020!



# A NOTE FROM PASTOR ANN

Thank you to Immanuel Lutheran for a year end financial gift to Gathering Table. And thank you to WELCA for all the white socks, sweatshirts, and long underwear for people living and working in the cold. Please come visit on a Saturday and meet the wonderful people who gather together as a Christ centered family.



With love,  
*Pastor Ann*



## THE GATHERING TABLE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Are you looking for meaningful service projects in the KC area? Then come cook and serve at the Gathering Table (formerly Children's Memorial Lutheran Church), 5001 Independence Avenue, our local ELCA Synodically Authorized Worshipping Community! We need teams of 4-5 people to spend a Saturday morning (or several!) cooking and serving meals for about 75 people experiencing food insecurity. We can share recipes if you need them! This is a special way for church groups, work groups or just groups of friends to serve a community in need. And, as one of our long-time volunteers says, "God will show his love through you."

We have many Saturdays open in 2020, as meals are served every week.

Please contact the lunch scheduler, Anne Wiedenkiller from First Lutheran KC, at [keithandanne@gmail.com](mailto:keithandanne@gmail.com) for a schedule and more information.



# 2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

## ALTAR GUILD

8:30a January 25, 2020  
Spong Common Room  
Breakfast provided  
**All Are Welcome!**

## ADULT FORUM ♦ JANUARY TOPICS

JANUARY 5 Winter Prayer and Meditation  
JANUARY 12 Stump the Pastor  
JANUARY 19 Budget & Annual Report Presentation  
JANUARY 26 Music in Worship - Roland Pera

**January 30, 2020 7:30p Bier Station**

*Theology*  
**ONTAP**

Join this month's discussion leader, Henrik Andersen, at Bier Station's very own Bier Garten. 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*



## INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

before the Annual Meeting  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020**

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

- Council Minutes for November 2019 were corrected to reflect the Continuing Resolution regarding Evangelism designated funds failed to meet the 2/3 requirement of the entire Council. Disbursement of designated evangelism funds will continue to be handled on an ad-hoc basis by the Council.
- Sally Baehni presented a draft version of the 2020 Budget. Minor changes were suggested for clarification purposes. While the final version will be a deficit budget the deficit continues to decrease. The Council thanked the Budget Committee for their hard work.
- A motion for the addition of a budget line in support of the Bach Cantata Vesper Service expenditures was offered. The motion carried and a \$2500 expense will be presented in the 2020 budget. It is important to note that separate contributions for the Vesper Services outside of normal Envelope & Growth Giving will continue to take place and could offset these expenses.
- A motion to add an additional line to the Local Outreach Budget for support of the Oromo Language Ministry was offered. The motion carried and a \$500 contribution will be presented in the 2020 budget.
- The 2018 Audit Committee submitted their report on the afternoon of the Council Meeting. The Council reviewed the report summary and it does not appear to reflect any significant findings. Council members were asked to review the entire report, and a more formal review will be taken up at a future Council meeting.



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### JESUS – King of kings, Lord of Lords

The first stop on my pilgrimage in the Holy Lands last October was the Herodion, the fortress and palace built between 23 and 15 BCE by Herod the Great, king of Judea. It sits atop a high hill south of Jerusalem and east of Bethlehem. I didn't

understand the significance of this place until I learned why we were there. By all accounts, Herod the Great was a nasty piece of work, a paranoid megalomaniac who killed anyone perceived a threat to his power, including innocents. Remember, in the Gospel according to Matthew, it was Herod the Great who ordered the execution of all male children two years old and under in the vicinity of Bethlehem upon hearing of the birth of king of the Jews. Herod the Great dominated Israel's politics and culture and he overshadowed the village where Jesus was born. The contrast between Herod the Great and Jesus could not have been greater. From outward appearances, Herod had everything and Jesus had nothing. But God saw things differently. Who better to up end the mighty and powerful than the lowly-born Jesus, born in a manger shared with animals? This special baby is the One whose Good News of peace and salvation disrupts the Herods of the world and overturns all powers that obstruct the way of His promise of the gifts of peace and justice. His humble life changed the world forever! In Christ, our sins have been forgiven.



Through faith we have been saved. Truly, Jesus is our King of kings and Lord of lords. Glory, hallelujah.



# BACH CANTATA VESPERS

Immanuel's Bach Cantata Vespers series is returning in 2020.

Our first of two services will be on **Sunday, January 26th at 7:00 pm.**

This service will feature Cantata 23, *Du wahrer Gott und Davids Sohn*, or "Thou very God and David's Son". The four-movement cantata was first performed in 1723 as part of Bach's audition for the job of Cantor at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig. The text was written by an anonymous poet inspired by Luke 18: 35 – 43, the story of Jesus healing a blind man near Jericho who cries out to him asking for mercy. (The anonymous poet is believed to have been a member of the committee that eventually hired Mr. Bach.) Bach also used the Lamb of God text in movement 4, and incorporated the chorale tune *Christe du Lamm Gottes*, sometimes referred to as the German Agnus Dei, in all but the first movement of the work. For this cantata, the Immanuel Choir will be joined by string players, two oboes and guest soloists. We hope you will join us for this unique chance to worship and enjoy the music of J. S. Bach together.

## Upcoming Cantata Dates:

Sunday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m.	Cantata 23
Sunday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m.	Cantata 150

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## THE IMMANUEL SYMPOSIUM ON: FEAR, TREMBLING, AND KIERKEGAARD

Søren Kierkegaard is one of the most enigmatic and influential philosophers of the 19th century. At the next Immanuel Symposium, we'll be taking a deep dive into his book *Fear and Trembling*, a brilliant exploration of the Binding of Isaac from Genesis 22. It's a troubling story that Kierkegaard uses as a jumping off point to explore the role of faith, ethics, religion, and our place in the universe.

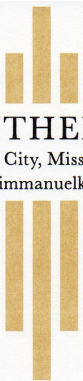
JOIN US ON JAN. 22, JAN. 29, FEB. 5, AND FEB. 12

Register by January 15th, via e-mail

([symposium@immanuelkc.org](mailto:symposium@immanuelkc.org))

or call the church office at (816) 931-8483

A suggested donation of \$35 will cover course materials



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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[www.immanuelkc.org](http://www.immanuelkc.org)

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