

PARISH NEWS



I always welcome the coming of Fall. There's something inherently refreshing cool, brisk breeze and a steaming cup of hot apple cider. The turning of the seasons draws us into the cosmic dance of creation, as the earth

revolves around the sun. Likewise, our lectionary takes an apocalyptic turn, readying us for the end of the year and the coming winter slumber of the natural world around us. Fall is a liminal season, a time between times, marked by change more than perhaps anything else.

As the old adage goes, change is inevitable, but it depends upon us to make sure the world changes for the better. We're at a liminal moment in our world right now, a fork in the road of history. We're facing an important choice of what we want the future to look like. Do we want to do the hard work of making sure future generations have a world better than our own, or do we want to ignore the problems in front of us, and do nothing?

NOVEMBER
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.

Space limitations may require editing of material. Deadline for the **December 2020 issue is Thursday, November 24, 2020.**

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.

PASTOR'S BOOKSHELF:
THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X
AS TOLD BY ALEX HALEY

Because we are faced with monumental challenges, right now. From climate change to nascent fascism, problems that are centuries in the making are reaching a tipping point. The world will be a very different place in just a few short years, and we, who have been called as stewards of God's creation, are tasked with ensuring it changes for the better.

This is sacred work, continuing the same ministry begun by Jesus Christ that promised freedom to the oppressed, healing to the afflicted, and good news to all people.

Siblings in Christ, we are mighty. We have been filled with the Holy Spirit, empowered and equipped to change the world. So let's get to work.

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

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

Kevin Fewell - Building Manager

Council & Executive Committee

Mary Jo Moore - President

Connie Benolkin - Vice President

Terry Kueker - Secretary

Kathy Linder - Treasurer

Rick Sundell - Financial Secretary

Lynden Peters

Mindy Rash

Jack Umbach

Kathy Boehmer

Deborah Crawford

Kate Hauber

Mason Carey

Sarah Prem

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Members of Immanuel

Larry Taylor, experiencing health issues.

Joe and Lori Clanin, whose home caught fire when a power line fell on the roof following a recent windy storm. They are OK and are temporarily staying in a hotel while the search for a temporary residence continues. The plan is to rebuild/repair their damaged home, which will take months. To learn about when and how to help the Clanins, contact Pastor Ann, pastorannrundquist@gmail.com.

Pam Edvalds, recovering from a broken leg

Rev. Keith Klokau, Gretchen Bishop, Lori Clanin, Andree Cuthbertson, Theresa Draper, Ann Erickson, De Pfofner, Naomi Karmeier, Gerry Niewald, Deanne Schlehuber, Jackie Turner, and Carolyn Wilson, coping with health issues.

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

Friends of Immanuel

Michelle Benolkin, sister-in-law of Larry and Connie Benolkin

Family of **Lee Cumba**, friend of Karole Jacobsen

Death of **Albert Konovalski**, family of Karole Jacobsen

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

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

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

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



From the President

STEWARDSHIP IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC



First of all, let me thank you, members of Immanuel, for your continued financial support and commitment of time, prayers, and talent during this very challenging year. Your steadfastness demonstrates hope, the hope in God in Jesus Christ. God's faithfulness provides us with confidence that God's purposes will be fulfilled. One Bible verse that

comes to mind is Hebrews 10:23: *Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.*

Earlier this year we closed our doors. It was an agonizing decision but made with the hope that doing so would protect the health and welfare of our members, staff and clergy, and visitors. And while we have adapted through use of technology, offering worship services on YouTube, gatherings by Zoom, and weekly announcements by constant contact, none of these methods satisfy our hunger for the kind of relationship-building and spiritual nourishment we get from meeting and greeting one another, catching up on each other's lives, praying together, communing together, and participating in the life and mission of Immanuel in-person. But, we make do, confident in the faithfulness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Stewardship this year can be as simple as staying home and staying in touch remotely. Staying at home is not only about protecting yourself, it's about caring for others. Immanuel cares for others in many ways. Here are but a few. One new ministry that was started this year fills me with gratitude for our church community. Called tele-ministry, twenty-two members are contacting members by phone, emails, texts, and/or cards to check in, hear how people are doing, learn of needs Immanuel can help with, and to pray together. The needs are communicated to Pastor Sievenpiper and Ministry Assistant Rundquist for follow-up, and the prayer requests are turned over to the Prayer Team. Of course, there is nothing to stop any of us from praying for our families and friends, first responders, government leaders, and those in need. Many of us do. The list is endless.

Immanuel shows care by loving our neighbors outside our walls through social ministry efforts in the community, e.g., MLM, the Gathering Table, etc. and advocacy for racial equity and social justice. Ministry continues at Immanuel despite social isolation and sheltering-in-place.

Soon you will be invited to contribute your resources of money, time, talents and prayers so Immanuel can continue to glorify God and love our neighbors. Your support makes it possible to be the best church we can be, inviting others to make our church their church! Each week we have visitors watch our worship services and, with the upgrades Pastor is installing, we will expand and improve our digital presence. Recently, we expanded our presence on Westport Road by installing a large “All are Welcome” banner that communicates our inclusivity and provides a link to our on-line worship service.

Sometime this November you will receive a letter from Pastor Sievenpiper, including a commitment card to complete and return to the office. We use this information to prepare the 2021 annual budget and to establish ministry priorities. We can't be our “best” church without your continued support and involvement.

Lastly, take heart that we are all in this experience together and we will get through it as a community that lives in the hope of God in Jesus Christ!

Mary Jo Moore
President

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the October 20, 2020, Council Meeting

- Pastor has received a request from Youth Works (YW) concerning our ability to participate in the 2021 season. In discussion the Council was of the opinion to participate pending COVID-19 conditions next summer. It was agreed that Pastor will discuss the YW request with the COVID-19 advisory committee, and pending any identified objections advise YW that we would host as long as there were no ongoing COVID-19 concerns next summer.
- United Missouri Bank has advised that the Federal Government has finally released a process to seek loan forgiveness for the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan we received. Treasurer Kathy Linder and Kate Hauber will work with the Bank and Miller Accounting to comply with the PPP process.
- The Property Committee is arranging to have some needed tree trimming performed on the Genesee House and the area over the playground. They are also addressing some repair work needed on the Genesee roof, and the canopy over the office windows along Bell Street.
- There was discussion about surveilling our church building, equipment, appliances, property weekly to ensure good maintenance and the health, safety of the Purple Dragon Day Care children and staff.

HOLY COMMUNION AT IMMANUEL

We are offering service of Holy Communion at Immanuel's back parking lot. Group sizes will need to be limited, to allow for distance between us, so please sign up for a spot ahead of time by clicking this link: <https://reopen.church/r/sRh0T9Ql>.

We're doing our best to mitigate the risk of gathering, and when we come together in these days of pandemic, there is a risk of spreading COVID-19. To help us limit that risk, we ask that you to keep the following in mind:

- Please do not attend if you:
 - have tested positive for COVID-19, and have had any symptoms within the last 14 days
 - have had COVID-like symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, etc.) within the last 72 hours
 - have had close contact with someone who has tested positive within the last 14 days
- Masks must be worn over your nose and mouth
- Please practice physical distancing, keeping 10 feet of separation from other people (aside from family members)
- Please practice safe hygiene while among other people (e.g., coughing and sneezing into your elbow)
- Bathrooms will not be available for use, as the church building will not be open
- Please do not attend if you have not registered.

NOVEMBER

WEEKLY READINGS

01

FIRST READING REVELATION 7:9-17
PSALM PSALM 34:1-10, 22
SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-3
GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

08

FIRST READING AMOS 5:18-24
PSALM PSALM 70
SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18
GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:1-13

15

FIRST READING ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18
PSALM PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11
GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:14-30

22

FIRST READING EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24
PSALM PSALM 95:1-7A
SECOND READING EPHESIANS 1:15-23
GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:31-46

29

FIRST READING ISAIAH 64:1-9
PSALM PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19
SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9
GOSPEL MARK 13:24-37

ILC EVENTS

CLICK ON EACH HEADING TO DIRECT YOU TO THE EVENT

**9:30 AM
SUNDAYS**

VIRTUAL SERVICE

**AFTER SUNDAY
SERVICE**

BIBLE STUDY

**10:00 AM
TUESDAYS**

COFFEE &
CONVERSATION

**7:00 PM
WEDNESDAYS**

BOOK STUDY

**7:00 PM
THURSDAYS**

HAPPY HOUR

**LAST
THURSDAYS
7:00 PM**

THEOLOGY ON TAP

HOLLIS CENTER

RETREAT, REFLECT, RENEW

PO Box 402 | Bonner Springs, Kansas 66012 | tel: 913.441.0451 | email: info@holliscenter.org | www.holliscenter.org

September 8, 2020

Immanuel Lutheran
1700 Westport Road
Kansas City, MO 64111

Dear Members of Immanuel Lutheran,

The continued interest, involvement and financial support that your organization has given to Hollis Renewal Center are vitally important. As a Friend of Hollis congregation, you are partners with many other groups and individuals as you steward this beautiful place. We gratefully acknowledge your generous gift of \$500.00, recorded on September 08, 2020. It makes a substantial difference to have this kind of support. Thank you!

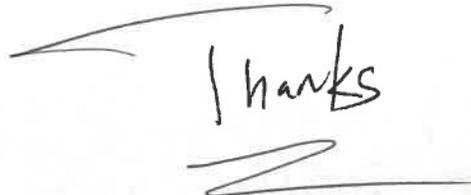
Please lift Hollis up in your prayers. In partnership with you and other congregations, we are able to offer Hollis as a renewable resource for the Kansas City area. We encourage the members of Immanuel Lutheran to make use of the resources Hollis offers. Consider a time in the future when you use Hollis for a staff or small group retreat, church picnic or a creative outdoor program.

I am available to assist your congregation either with an education program on Sunday morning or as a guest preacher. Please call if I can be a resource to your congregation's ministry.

God's blessings this Season of Advent,



Dave Mareske
Executive Director



RETREATS | HIKING | CAMPING | VOLUNTEERING | SPECIAL EVENTS

VIRTUAL HYMN CHOIR

Do you like to sing hymns?

Are you looking for a way to contribute to Sunday morning worship services in this time of social distancing? I am looking for more people to contribute to weekly Virtual Hymn Choirs. You do not need to be a regular member of the Immanuel Choir to sing!

If you are interested, you will need the following:

1. A willing spirit, a voice and the ability to sing rhythmically.
2. Wired headphones (even earbuds work well) and a device - phone, tablet, computer, etc. - to listen to a guide track on
3. Another device to record with

If you are at all interested, I would urge you to give it a try! For more information and instructions, please contact Suzanne Anderson at suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

ALLELUIA AND THE ARTS

Alleluia and the Arts will take place November 8th and 22nd as well as every Sunday in Advent beginning November 29th. All Sunday School families are invited to join us at 10 AM, as Megan Sawyer leads us in music and song. It will be informal and won't run too long.

Just click the link below!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6011647126>

Meeting ID: 601 164 7126

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,6011647126# US

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: Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Where: Contact Karen Bame for meeting log-in information if you would like to join this meeting

Why: Because we are called to serve others

Questions: See Pam Edvalds, Rick Sundell, Linda Fewell, Lori Kueker or Gretchen Bishop

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE 2020

Greeting Card Sale



Our handmade cards feature artwork provided by our Sunday school students. The cards are sold in **packs of 5 for \$10.00**. Proceeds from the sale will benefit 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. If you would like to purchase cards, please reach out to:

Linda Fewell 816-868-0713

MLM CHRISTMAS STORE DRIVE THROUGH EVENT!



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
9:00 A.M. – NOON
BELL STREET PARKING LOT**

**THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE WILL BE HOSTING ONE MORE
MLM CHRISTMAS DONATION DRIVE THROUGH EVENT ON SATURDAY
THE 14TH.**

**NOTE: IN ADDITION TO GIFTS, MLM ALSO REQUESTS \$20 TARGET
AND WAL-MART GIFT CARDS.**

**SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE IN THE BELL STREET
PARKING LOT TO GREET YOU AND HELP UNLOAD AS NEEDED.**

***WE WILL BE WEARING FACIAL MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

MLM CHRISTMAS STORE

2020 VOLUNTEER INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Church Drop Off Day Volunteers:

Sunday November 15th, 11:30am - 3:30pm

Sorting Volunteers: Monday November

16th - Friday November 20th,

11:30am - 4:30pm

Shopping Elves: Various days and times,
please see sign up for more detail

Floor/Area Volunteers: Various days and
times, please see sign up for more detail

Pre-Pick Up Sorting Elves: Monday

December 7th - Saturday December 12th (3
different shifts available, please see sign up
for more details)

Carrying Elves: Monday December 7th –
Saturday December 12th (3 different shifts
available, please see sign up for more details)

Inventory and Packing Elves:

Monday, December 14th and Tuesday,
December 15th, 11:30 am - 4:30pm

Click here to sign up (please read each description and look at the date/times before signing
up and remember each individual, no matter their age, counts as a person).

Can't volunteer but would still like to help? **Click here** to check
out our Amazon Wish List. Items will be sent directly to MLM.

\$20 Target and Wal-Mart gift cards are also needed

Questions? Please contact Rebecka Noel at **rebeckanoel@mlmkc.org**.

MLM NEEDS YOUR HELP

**BETTE, THE CHRISTMAS QUEEN HAS PUT A CALL OUT FOR BOXES.
THE SIZES SHE IS LOOKING FOR ARE:**

- Copy paper boxes **with** lids
- 16" x 20" x 20"
- 22" x 16" x 15" (medium home depot boxes - not heavy duty)
- 20" x 20" 12"

Even if the measurements are not exact, boxes close to those sizes will work. Boxes can be dropped of at the Central Location:
(3031 Holmes, KCMO 64109)

Want to help out in other ways?

You can donate items to the Christmas Store by going to our [Amazon Wish List](#). Items are sent directly to us!

Volunteer to help process Christmas Store applications.

[Click here to sign up!](#)



MLM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MLM loves its volunteers! We currently have multiple volunteer opportunities available. If you feel comfortable and are not part of the vulnerable population, we would love to have you!

Please see the list below for available opportunities:



Garden/Orchard - MLM has a large garden and orchard that takes a lot of work to maintain! This is a great volunteer opportunity for youth groups, families, or anyone who wants to try their hand at gardening. For more information, contact the program manager, **Marcus Leach at marcusleach@mlmkc.org**.

Pre-Packing Food Boxes - Every Monday-Friday (8:30am-11am) at the Central Location (3031 Holmes KCMO 64109), volunteers help pre-pack food boxes to handout through our food pantry. You must sign up in advance. For more information or to sign up, email **Rebecka at rebeckanoel@mlmkc.org**.

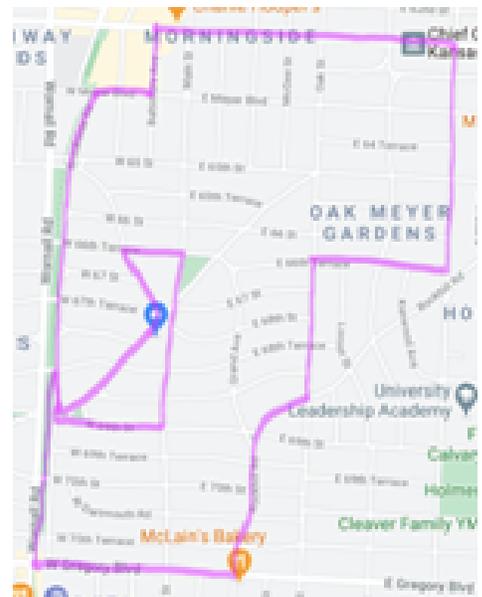


HEART OF AMERICA CROP WALK



Shortly after 10 AM, on Saturday, October 10, 2020, Immanuel's CropWalk team (Karen Bame and Rick Sundell) started their walk to raise funds to fight hunger in Kansas City and around the world. This is Karen's 31st consecutive year walking in the Kansas City - Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk, and Rick has walked most of those 31 years as well. When they started their walk, Karen's Fitbit showed she had already taken 817 steps that morning.

They started their walk from their home (blue dot on the map), and walked for about 2 hours through their Armour Hills and Brookside neighborhoods. Along the way, they made a stop at the Brookside Post Office, where they mailed the CWS/CROP checks they received to the Heart of America CropWalk treasurer, and again at McLain's Bakery to get a pumpkin muffin and a cinnamon roll. By the time they returned home, Karen's fitbit showed she had walked 10,549 steps for CROP!



As of Wednesday, Oct. 14, Immanuel's CropWalk team has raised \$2281.00 towards our \$3100 goal! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to help fight hunger.

It is not too late to donate – just go to <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/kansascitymo/>, click on donate and search for Immanuel Lutheran KC ELCA, Karen Bame or Rick Sundell, and make an on-line donation. The monies raised by the HOA CROP Hunger Walk will be used to fund global projects that include 1) food security and nutrition, 2) water, sanitation and hygiene, 3) refugee protection and resettlement, and 4) disaster preparedness and response, as well as agencies in Kansas City that help feed and shelter folks in our community.



HAPPY

Birthday!

MASON CAREY 11/1

SADIE VELASCO 11/1

DANIEL PREM 11/2

ELEANOR MCCARTER 11/3

KERRI NOLAND-GEAR 11/3

CARMEN NORRIS 11/3

ANDI TOMLIN 11/3

MARY NELSON 11/4

KATIE WERNER 11/4

ERIN HAUBER 11/5

MAC BERTSCH 11/8

DEBRA LYNN 11/10

GERRY NIEWALD 11/10

GRACE PARK 11/12

GRETCHEN BISHOP 11/14

MATTHEW PREM 11/14

BRENNA MYERS 11/19

DOROTHY PICCIRILLO 11/19

PATTI WINKLER 11/19

CONNIE BENOLKIN 11/20

ANKE HIRSEKORN 11/20

JOHN ANDERSON 11/21

SOREN THOMSEN 11/21

BILL MOORE 11/22

MATTHEW GEAR 11/23

CLAY BOWDEN 11/26

ED ELLERBECK 11/26

KELLY KENNEDY 11/27

ROBERT TOMLIN 11/27

LEE CRAIG 11/29

DONNA ROTH 11/29

KAYLA MABON 11/30





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



Sign Up



Search for Immanuel KC



Donate

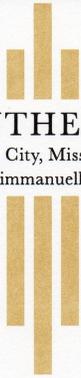
CLICK BELOW TO GET STARTED



Online



Get the app



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1700 Westport Road ■ Kansas City, Missouri 64111 ■ 816-931-8483

www.immanuelkc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED