



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

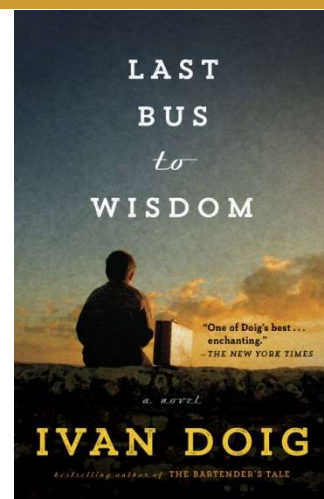
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



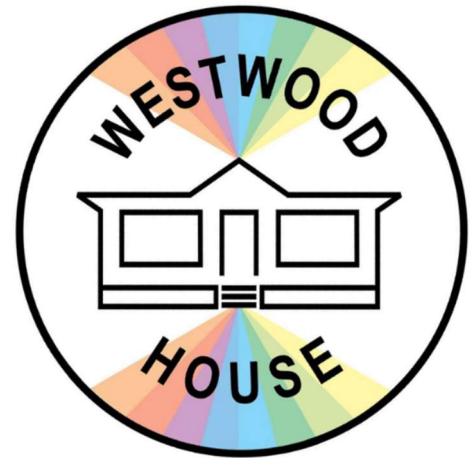
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=astble) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

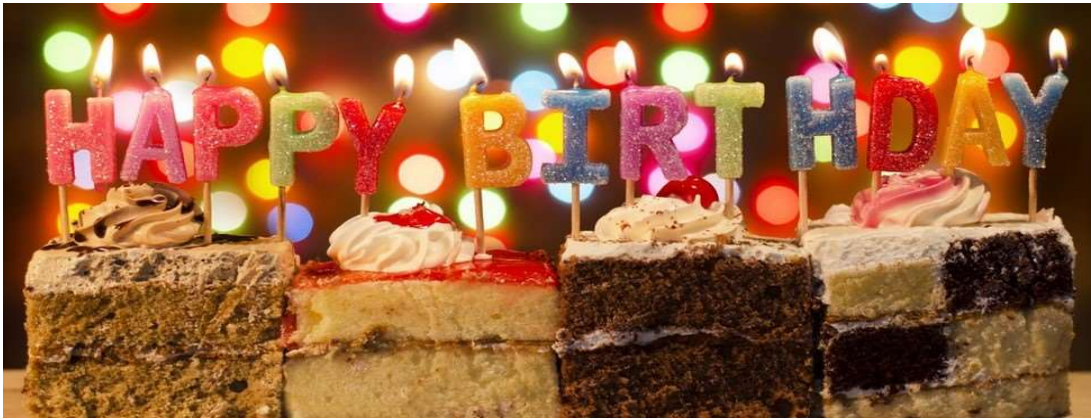
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



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Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

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PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

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Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

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KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

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Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

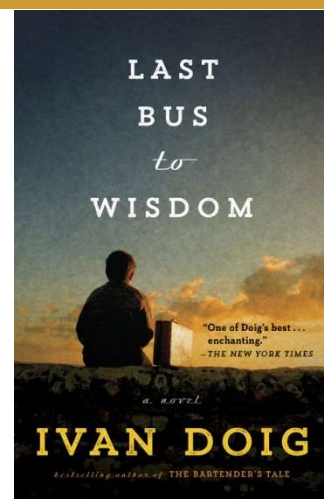
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The final novel from a great American storyteller.

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*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



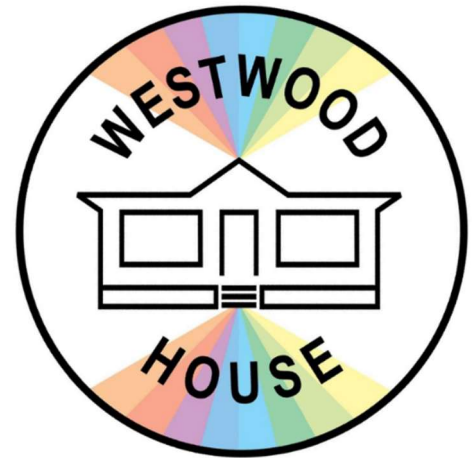
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=astble) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director

suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist

Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator

office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent

pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president

Bonnie Thomas, vice president

Melodee Blobaum, secretary

Kathy Linder, treasurer

Linda Fox, financial secretary

Henrik Andersen

Randy Callstrom

Mason Carey

Elizabeth Hastings

Lynden Peters

Sara Prem

Janette Rodecap

Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



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With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

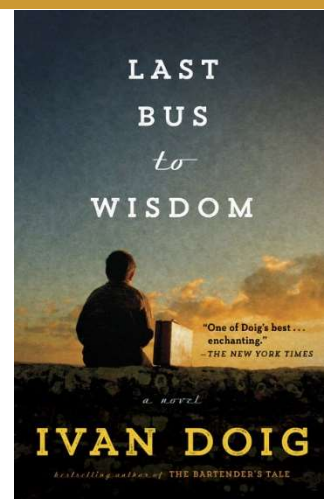
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

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How can you help?

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- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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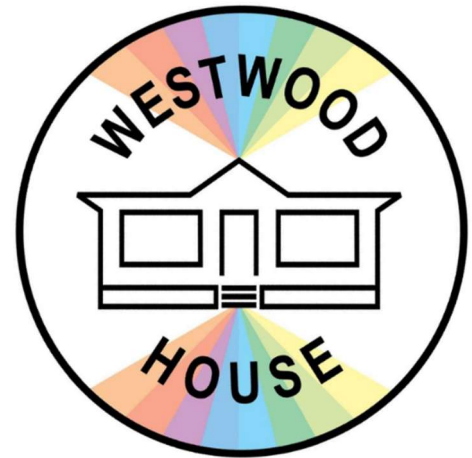
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Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

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Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

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Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=astble) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

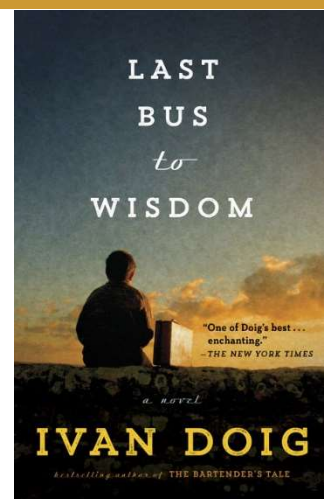
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

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Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

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How can you help?

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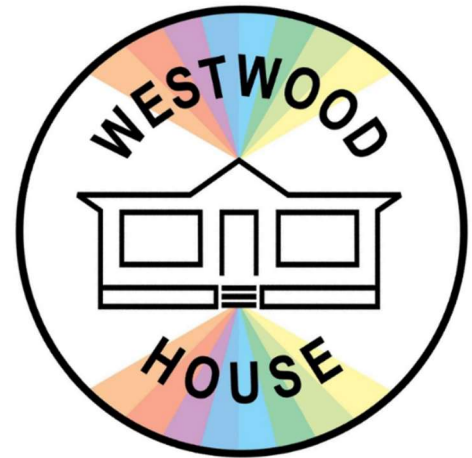
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Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

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- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

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People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=astble) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

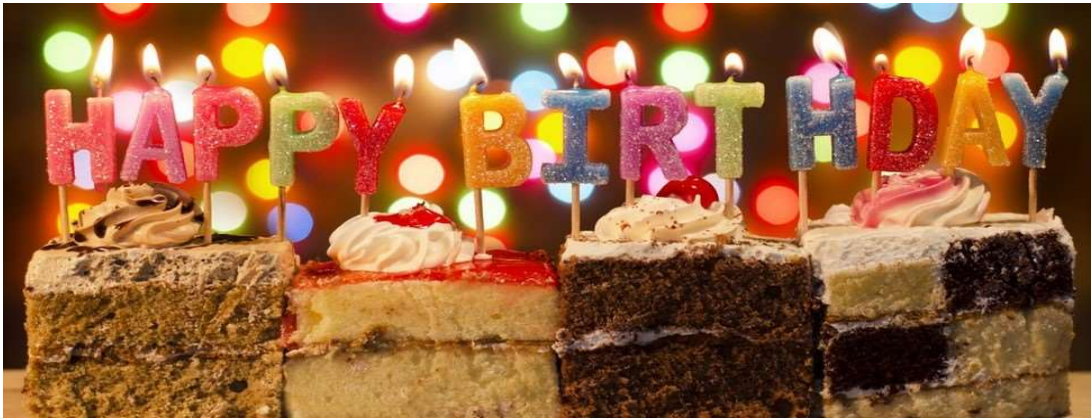
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

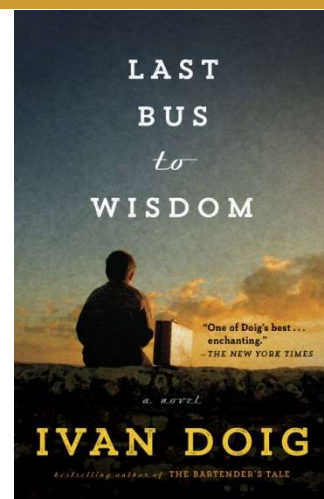
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



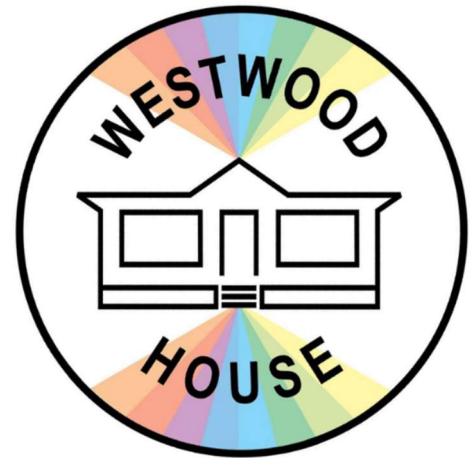
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

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3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

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- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

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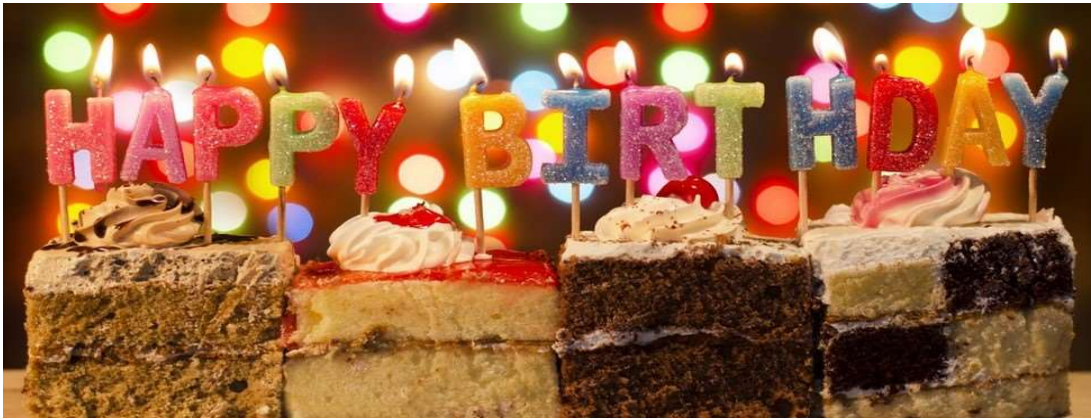
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10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

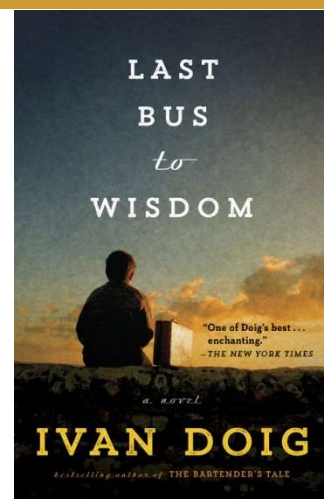
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



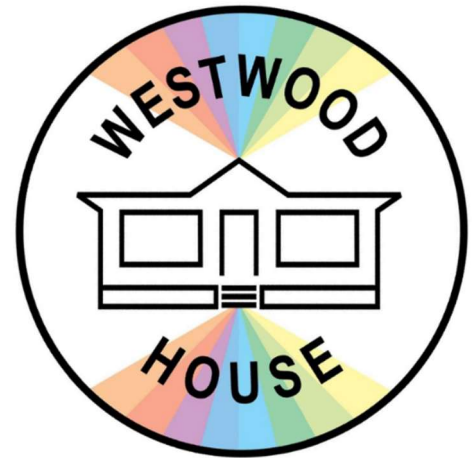
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

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Robert Barthel, organist
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Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

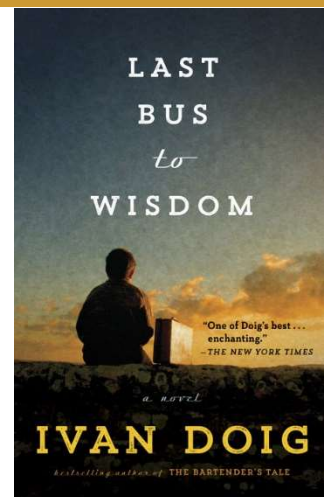
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



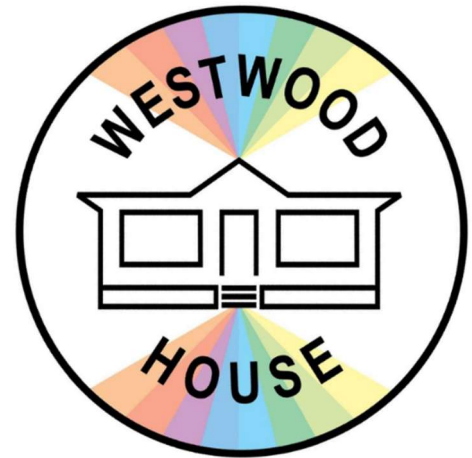
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ain_text) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

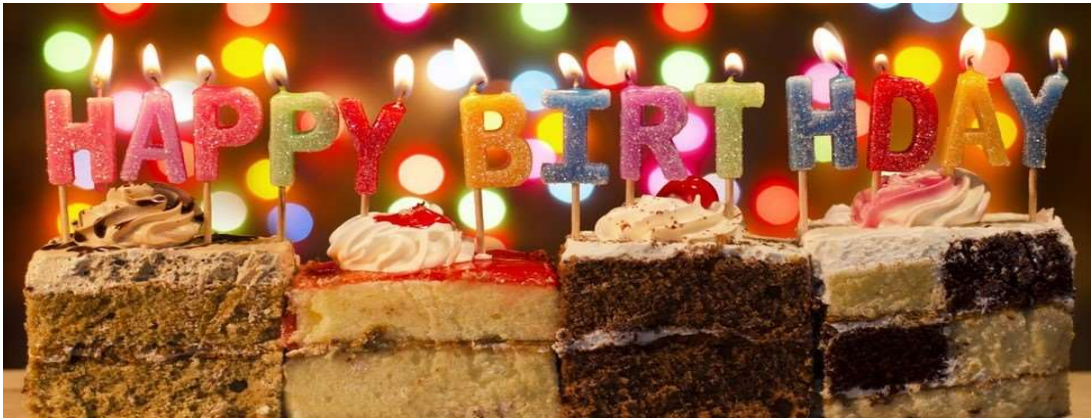
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
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October 2022



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This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

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In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

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Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

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Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

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With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

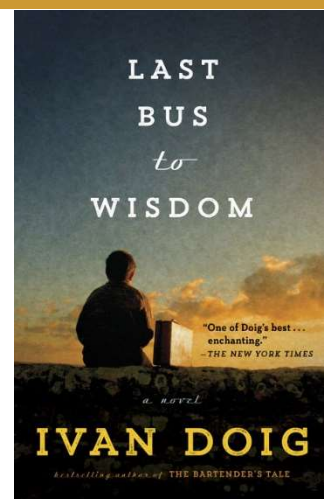
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The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



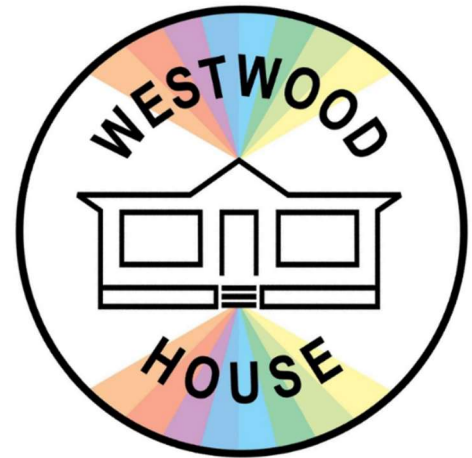
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_sml) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

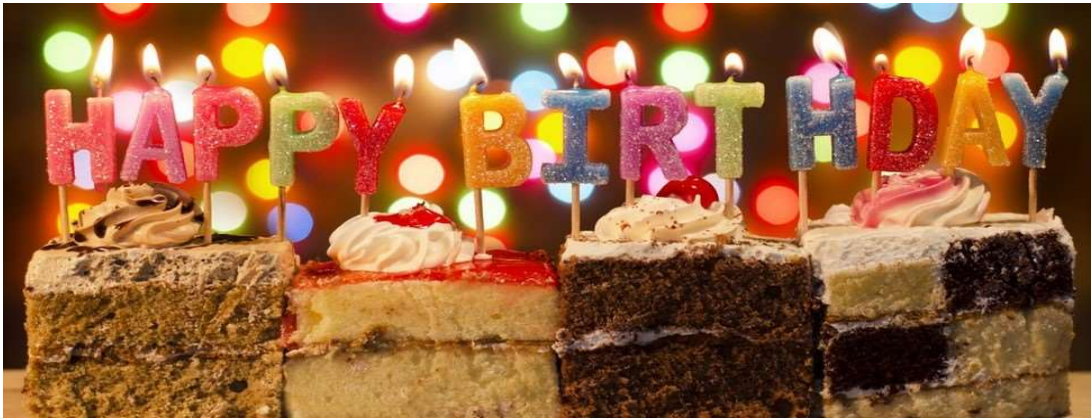
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



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With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

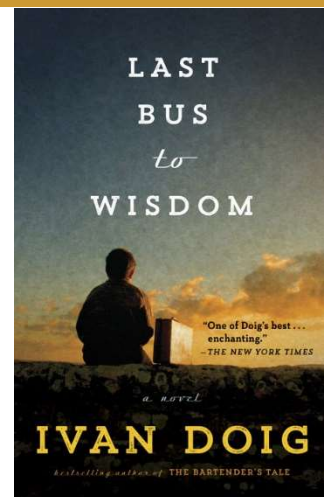
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

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Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



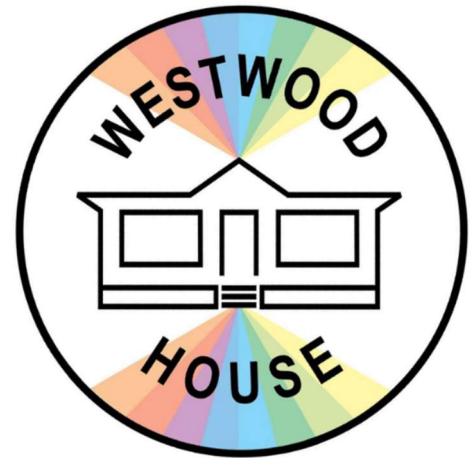
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=astble) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

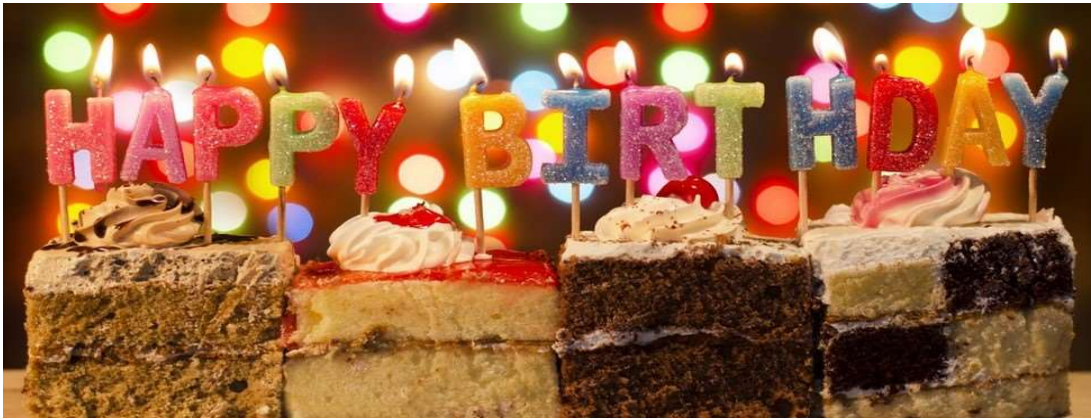
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director

suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist

Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator

office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent

pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president

Bonnie Thomas, vice president

Melodee Blobaum, secretary

Kathy Linder, treasurer

Linda Fox, financial secretary

Henrik Andersen

Randy Callstrom

Mason Carey

Elizabeth Hastings

Lynden Peters

Sara Prem

Janette Rodecap

Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

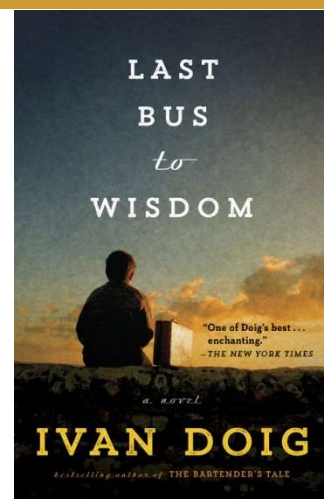
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

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Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



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The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

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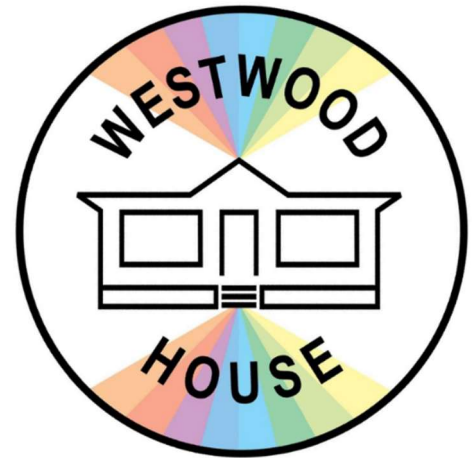
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KU!

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- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

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As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

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Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

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First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ain_text) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director

suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist

Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator

office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent

pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president

Bonnie Thomas, vice president

Melodee Blobaum, secretary

Kathy Linder, treasurer

Linda Fox, financial secretary

Henrik Andersen

Randy Callstrom

Mason Carey

Elizabeth Hastings

Lynden Peters

Sara Prem

Janette Rodecap

Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

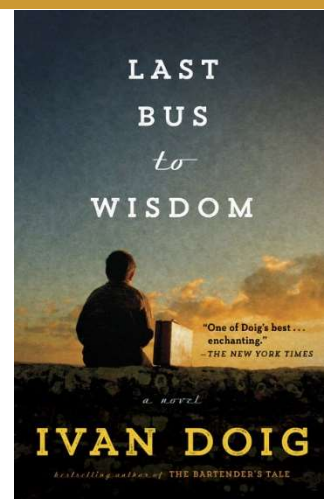
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



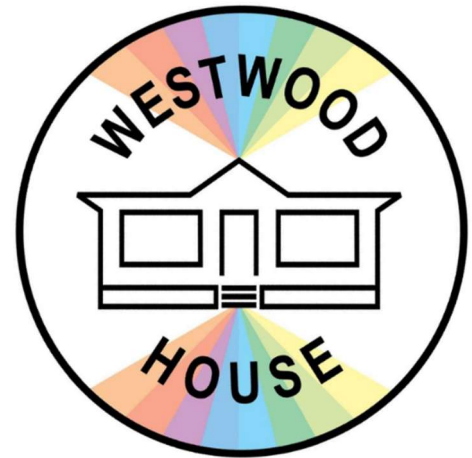
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

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Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

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Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

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9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

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Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

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7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

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Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



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10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

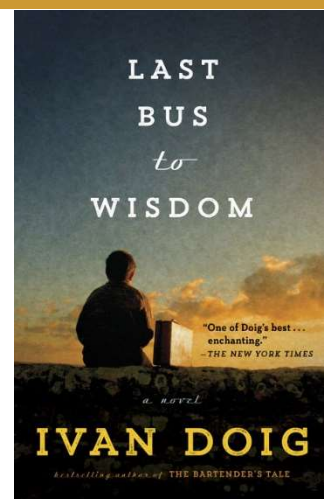
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



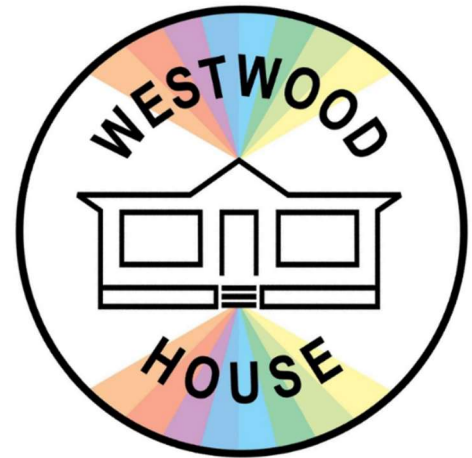
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

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Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

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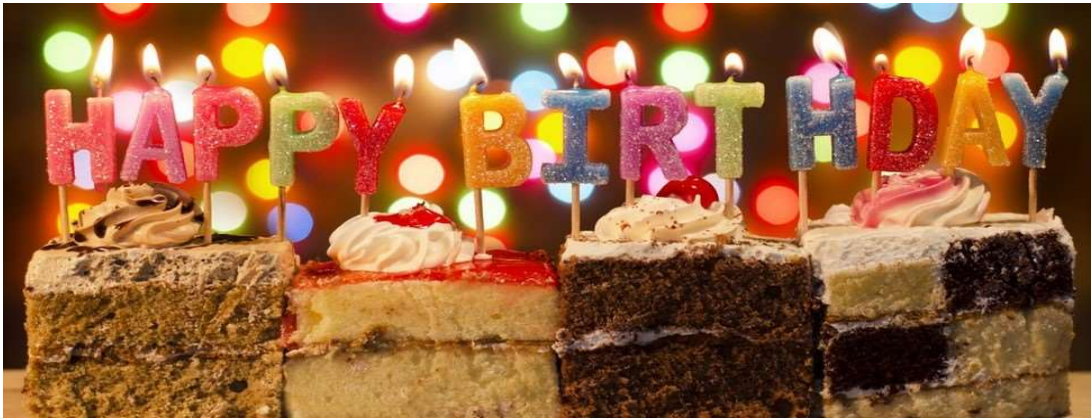
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10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

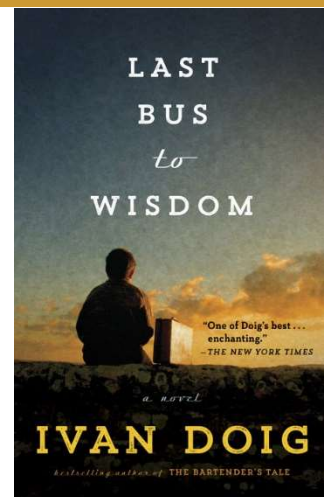
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



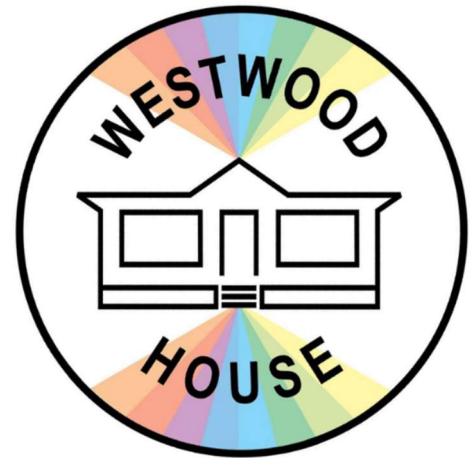
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ain_text) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
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Robert Barthel, organist
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Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

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PARISH NEWS

October 2022



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I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

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To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

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In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

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Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

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With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

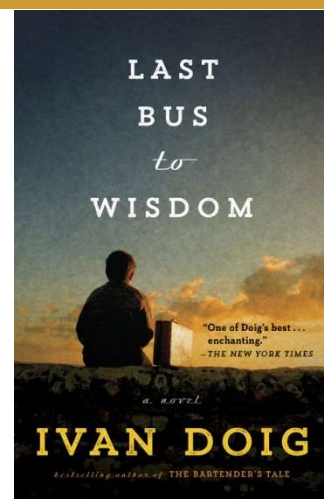
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



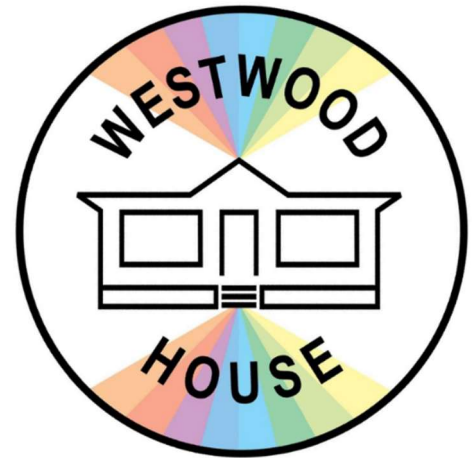
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_sml) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

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With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

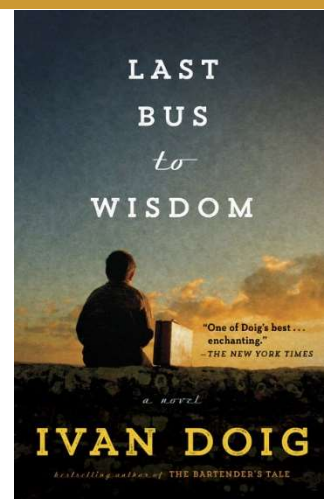
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FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



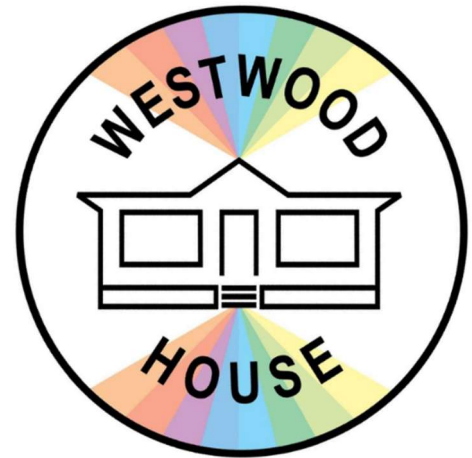
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ain_text) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

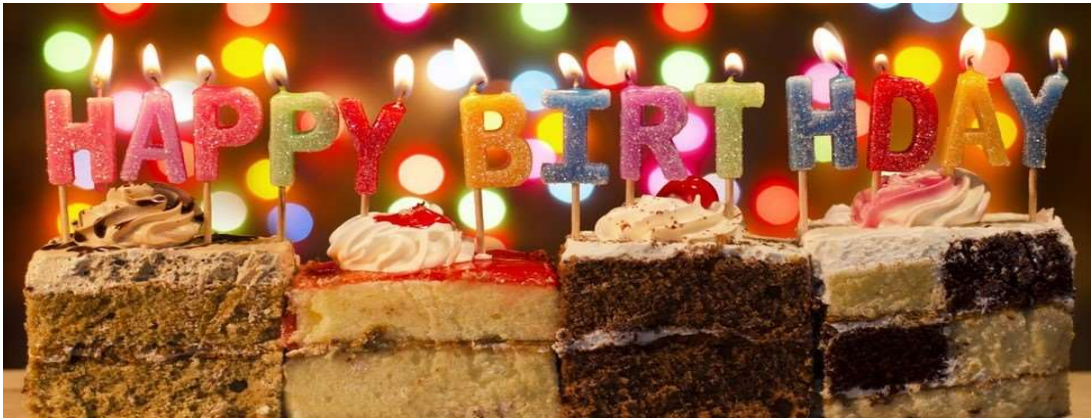
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director

suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist

Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator

office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent

pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president

Bonnie Thomas, vice president

Melodee Blobaum, secretary

Kathy Linder, treasurer

Linda Fox, financial secretary

Henrik Andersen

Randy Callstrom

Mason Carey

Elizabeth Hastings

Lynden Peters

Sara Prem

Janette Rodecap

Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

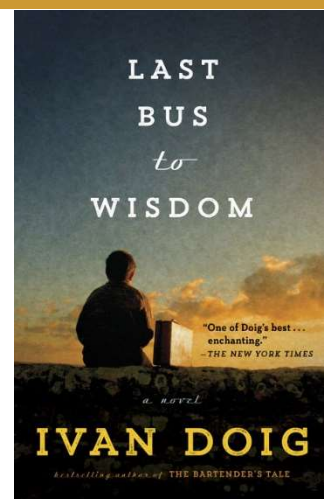
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

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Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

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Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



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Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

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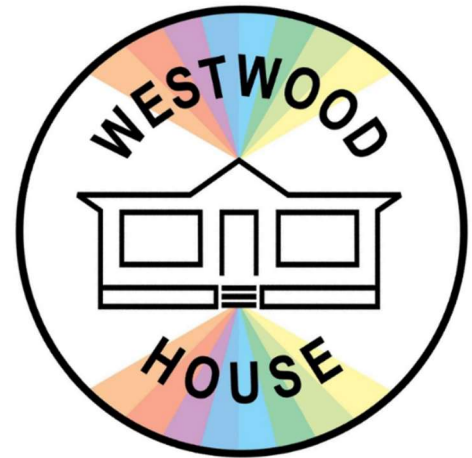
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- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_sml) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

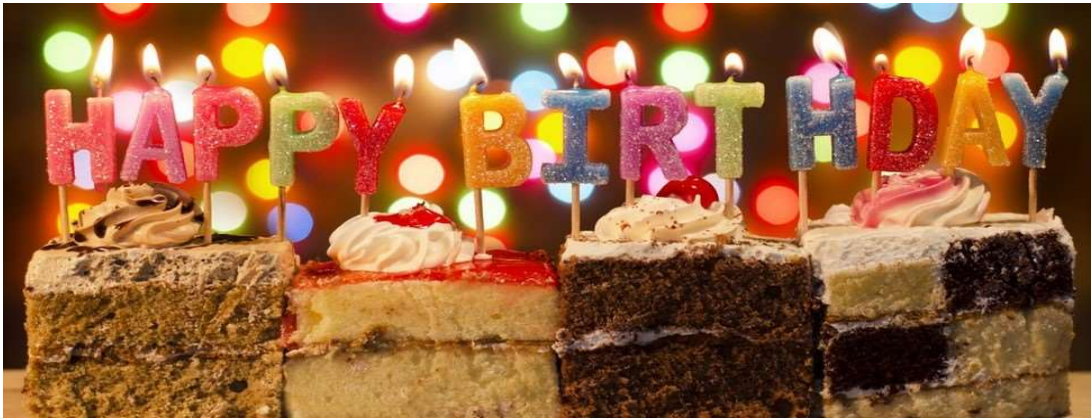
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

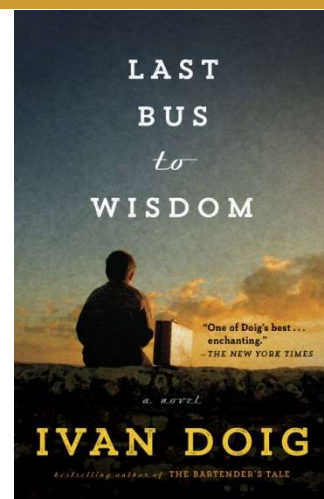
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



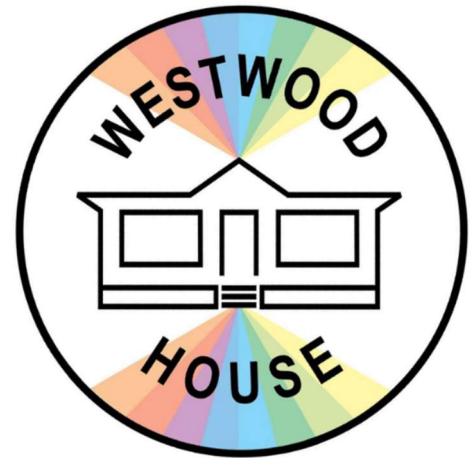
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

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Organist: Robert Barthel

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12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

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9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

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Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



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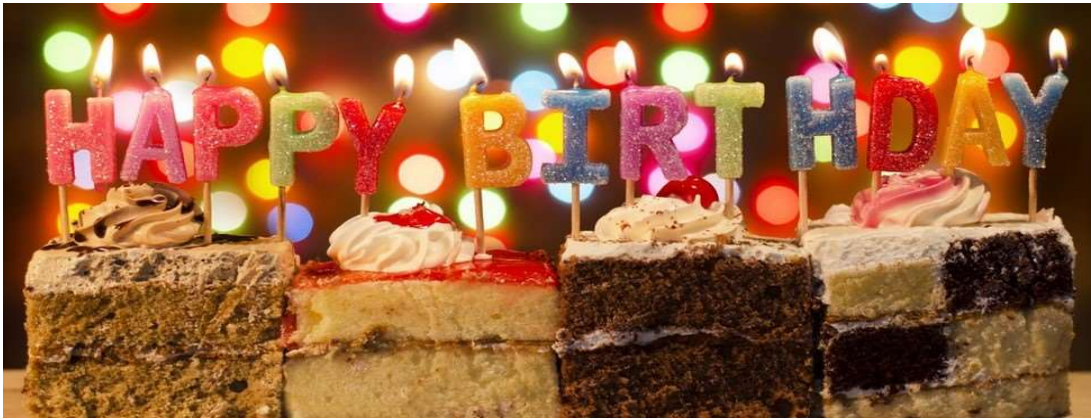
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Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson



PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

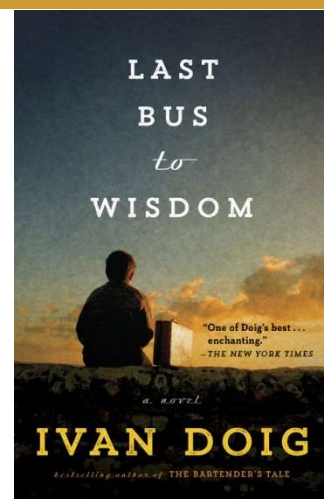
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



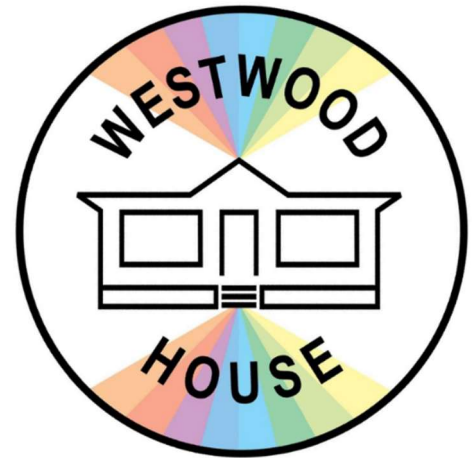
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

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Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

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Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

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Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
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10/22 Micah Harris
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10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
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10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor

msievenpiper@gmail.com

Suzanne Anderson, music director

suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com

Robert Barthel, organist

Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com

Rachel Decator, parish coordinator

office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483

Phillip Cooper, building superintendent

pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

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Melodee Blobaum, secretary

Kathy Linder, treasurer

Linda Fox, financial secretary

Henrik Andersen

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Sara Prem

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PARISH NEWS

October 2022



People of God,

Wine is an important means of grace, in our tradition. When we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion, we gather around a table and find ourselves being fed with a veritable feast. Bread, lovingly prepared for this community by the Altar Guild, is broken into pieces so we can be sure all are fed. Wine is poured, and all people are welcomed to drink deeply from the cup of God's grace that promises forgiveness and new life to all who receive it.

I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how many people to expect, so please RSVP to me or the Church Office by October 22nd.

In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

A LETTER FROM OUR FRIENDS AT PURPLE DRAGON PRE-SCHOOL

As the Financing a Faithful Future campaign raises funds to repair and update our building, our friends at Purple Dragon Preschool offer this heartfelt message about how Immanuel's people and building allow them to serve children in our community.

To those who've devoted themselves to the glory of God and to Immanuel Lutheran Church:

"No Man is an Island",

When we achieve, we usually do so because others have helped.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

"Thank you" is easy enough to say, but really doesn't quite convey the total gratitude we feel.

When we first stepped into Immanuel Lutheran Church, we had no idea how much the people who worshiped there would impact our lives and the life of our school.

In the Spring of 1997, I, a teacher then at Purple Dragon Pre-school, came on a field trip to show the children a very rare and elusive instrument on "O" week (*the organ, of course*).

My daughter, Victoria (then a 5 year old student) still remembers that day, and as we sit here now to pen our gratitude to paper, we feel an unbounded sense of joy, humility, and tremendous respect for each of you, wash over us. Simply put - we are in awe of God's plan.

In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson.**

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

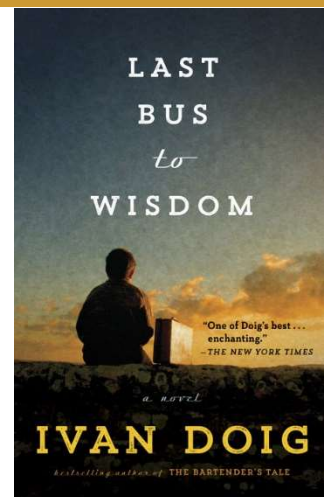
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



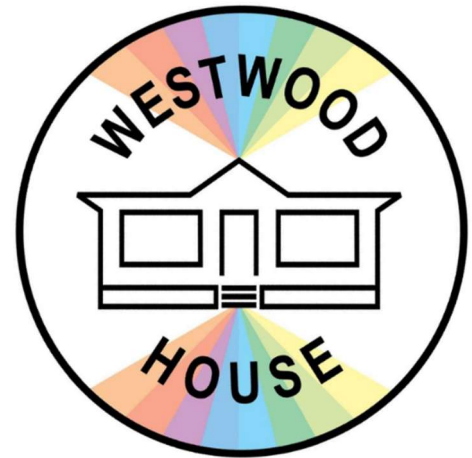
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Yungerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Yungerber, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_sml) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

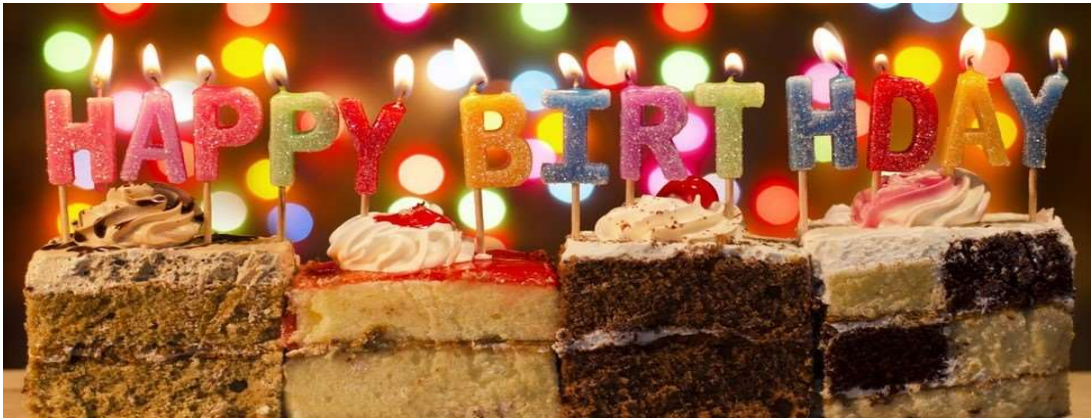
Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

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PARISH NEWS

October 2022



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I could spend all day waxing poetic about the elements of Holy

Communion; how it's through these ordinary things that we encounter the living God, truly present in the staple food and festive drink we share. It's a foretaste of the great heavenly feast that is to come, and even if it looks like a simple meal, just a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, these simple things hold within them the promise of eternity.

This is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, and it grows out of traditions thousands of years old. All over the Hebrew Bible, we see wine as a sign of abundance. Thriving vineyards and well-aged wines are gifts from God. Wine itself reflects the mystery of God's work in the world, transforming crushed and rotten fruit into something beautiful and delicious, as if by a miracle.

Wine isn't for everyone—it's why we offer juice at communion as well. But if we are thoughtful in how we prepare the elements for communion, they have the potential to draw us in deeper into our sacred story and

into the movement of the seasons. In years past, we've held tastings to select wines for each season in the liturgical year. We'll be doing that again this year, gathering in Spong Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, to consider how we might approach each of these seasons and how our experience of the sacrament might be enriched.

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In Peace,

Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

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"No Man is an Island",

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1 Thessalonians 5:18 reminds us that, "In all things, give thanks".

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In the words of Amelia Earhart, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees".

Because of the roots planted by your members so long ago, I felt called to return in a time when I needed God's help the most. You provided us refuge within the church - allowing us to continue to make a difference in the lives of small children and our community. This was no small task, or simple sacrifice.

Everyone in the committee worked diligently to make this possible. **Pastor Micah, Pastor Ann, Scott Thompson, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Mike, Henrick, Vicki, Miles, and Suzanne** dedicated so much of their time and talent to us (and many still do). For that we are thankful.

Pastor Micah, thank you for your ambition in bringing us here - you continue to serve as an exemplar of strong and contemplative leadership.

Pastor Ann, thank you for spreading joy to each of us - whether it be through a smile, playful banter or a loving shoulder for us to lean on. thank you for helping us find our voice.

Scott Thompson, you are quite the impressive negotiator - we are in awe! Thank you for assisting us with finding our footing in contracts.

Vicki, Kevin, Linda, Terry, Miles and Mike, thank you for moving mountains to accommodate us with the physical space for Purple Dragon Pre-school. You truly left no stone unturned.

Henrick and Terry, you've repaired so much for us. Thank you for always being eager to lend a helping hand or bring us light whenever it gets dark.

Suzanne and Henrick, our Christmas program would not be the same without you. **Henrick**, we will never forget you dressing up as Santa Claus for the holiday performance. **Suzanne**, your music and warmth adds so much to our time here.

In closing, stories often end how they begin - our story is no exception. Because of you and your generous community, Immanuel Lutheran Church remains engraved in our memory, in our children's memory and ultimately in our hearts (*our most important organ, of course*).

Let it be known that we will never forget the way you have made us feel. Your legacy lives on through each of us. ***We are wholly grateful.***

Thank you.

Lyudmila Nazemtseva (Mila) & Victoria Gevorkov
Purple Dragon Preschool

PURPLE DRAGON



PRIVATE PRESCHOOL

JOIN WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE

Immanuel welcomes you to worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. In-person worship in the sanctuary is streamed live on **Immanuel's YouTube channel**.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

OCTOBER'S ADULT FORUM LINEUP

October 2 — St Francis of Assisi. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on one of the most venerated friars of the 13th century.

October 9 — Prayer Team. Melodee Blobaum returns with a Prayer Team sponsored session on seasonal spiritual practices, only this time with a twist. We'll look at the church year, from Advent to Pentecost, and consider the liturgical and Biblical themes of each season, as well as why one might change spiritual practices from one church year season to the next. The session will also include a few thoughts on spiritual practices for the end of the long green Pentecost season.



October 16 — Justice and Peace Committee. The newly formed Justice and Peace Committee will share their work to date and ask for guidance for future work.

October 23 — Principles on Why We Vote. As we approach the November elections, Don Arney will lead a discussion on the ELCA social statement "Church in Society".

October 30 — Summary of the Augsburg Confession. Pastor Micah leads the discussion on the Augsburg Confession, which is the primary confession of faith of the Lutheran Church and one of the most important documents of the Protestant Reformation

Adult Forum begins 15 minutes after Sunday worship in Spong Common Room.

KNOW ABOUT AN UPCOMING SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT? HELP US SPREAD THE WORD.

From the **Committee for Justice and Peace**: We know that the members of Immanuel have a heart for service, and that many of you care deeply about a wide range of social and justice issues.

If you are like us, sometimes you hear about an upcoming event that doesn't interest you personally. You don't know who might be interested, and maybe you wonder who to forward that email to. Wonder no more!

The **Committee for Justice and Peace** wants to share information with Immanuel members about opportunities in the Kansas City area that come to our attention. This does not mean that we have identified them as an issue Immanuel as a congregation is supporting or actively working on. We are simply providing information for members who might be interested.



So forward that email or hand that flier to Linda Fox (**or any committee member**), and keep an eye on the Weekly Announcements. Committee members are **Don Arney, Linda Fox, Rebecca Blocksome, and Vicki Swanson**.

FALL CAMPAIGN KICK OFF AND SPRUCE UP DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The official launch of Immanuel's fall campaign in support of our annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023 is **Sunday, October 23**. On this day, following the worship service, we will "spruce up" the church grounds by weeding, pruning, raking, and removing dead debris. We hope to see many Immanuel members and families join in this effort like we did for our recent "God's Work, Our Hands" day. We will use yard tools in the shed, although people are encouraged to bring their own garden gloves and tools too. A sack lunch and beverage will be provided for all participants.



Commitment Sunday will be November 20, 2022. Stay tuned for more information about our fall campaign in the weekly announcements.

With gratitude,

The Stewardship Committee

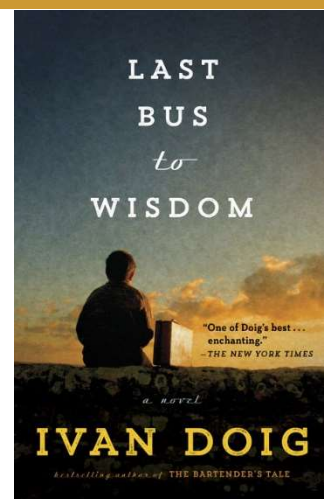
Mary Jo Moore and Heather Winker, Co-Chairs

CeCe Atherton, Linda Fox, Jesse Laughridge, and Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

FRIENDS OF LITERATURE MEETS OCT. 13, TO DISCUSS *LAST BUS TO WISDOM*

The final novel from a great American storyteller.

Donal Cameron is being raised by his grandmother, the cook at the legendary Double W ranch in Ivan Doig's beloved Two Medicine Country of the Montana Rockies, a landscape that gives full rein to an eleven-year-old's imagination. But when Gram has to have surgery for "female trouble" in the summer of 1951, all she can think to do is to ship Donal off to her sister in faraway Manitowoc, Wisconsin. There Donal is in for a rude surprise: Aunt Kate—bossy, opinionated, argumentative, and tyrannical—is nothing like her sister. She henpecks her good-natured husband, Herman the German, and Donal can't seem to get on her good side either. After one contretemps too many, Kate packs him back to the authorities in Montana on the next Greyhound. But as it turns out, Donal isn't traveling solo: Herman the German has decided to fly the coop with him. In the immortal American tradition, the pair light out for the territory together, meeting a classic Doigian ensemble of characters and having rollicking misadventures along the way.



*This **Adult Forum** is being led by Jean Nuernberger and hosted by Don and Mary Arney at 3438 Charlotte St. Kansas City, MO 64109-2357.*

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS



Usher Team Leader

Could you email usher volunteers and the church office to ask for a stand-in volunteer when an usher can't be at Immanuel on his or her regular Sunday? If so, the position of volunteer usher team leader is for you! To say "yes" to this volunteer opportunity and receive an usher schedule and updated usher instructions, contact the church office.

Media Team Member

Immanuel needs a media team member to run the livestream equipment in the balcony during worship about once a month. No technology experience is needed — it's an easy system that current media team members can show anyone how to use. To volunteer, contact Milan Hanson, 816-444-6629 or mhanson615@gmail.com.

Cross Bearer

Could you carry the cross at the opening and closing of worship? If you are interested and can carry the cross, which weighs about 20 pounds and is a bit top-heavy, contact Karen Bame, bamek@umkc.edu, or the church off, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF WITH ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR

Immanuel's Sunday School kicked off the new school year on September 18. We celebrated coming back to in-person learning after a long hiatus with a delicious ice cream sundae bar! We will be meeting every Sunday after services in the Gathering Space for any students who would like to join in.

Please see Elizabeth Hastings, Jeri Blaske-Yungeberg, or Tori Friedrich if you have any questions or are interested in helping.



CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS OFF IN PERSON OCT. 8

The 2022 Heart of America (HOA) CROP Hunger Walk is Saturday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. As in the “pre-pandemic” years, walkers will gather at Central United Methodist Church at 5144 Oak Street, and we will walk as a group through the neighborhoods south of UMKC.

Karen Bame is again lacing up her sneakers to lead Immanuel’s team and walk in her 33rd consecutive HOA CROP Hunger Walk. She would love to have company, so please consider signing up as a walker or donating to her walk to help combat hunger and poverty in Kansas City and the world.

How can you help?

Go to the [HOA Crop Hunger Walk website](#). Scroll down to the Search box and enter *Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA*. Go to the Immanuel Team page.

- Donate to the team by clicking on the *Make a Donation* button on the right side of the page. Follow the instructions to make your donation.

OR

- Join the team by clicking on the *Join the Team* button at the bottom of the page. Follow the instructions to register as a walker. Then contact your friends and family to get donations for your own walk on Oct. 8.

OR

- Write a check, made out to *CWS/Crop*, and give it to Karen or to Rick Sundell at church, or mail it to Karen and Rick at 6803 Edgevale Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64113.

How are the funds raised in the HOA CROP Hunger Walk used?

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. Of the funds raised in Kansas City, 25 percent will support agencies like MLM, Shepherd’s Center and a Raytown summer lunch program for kids.



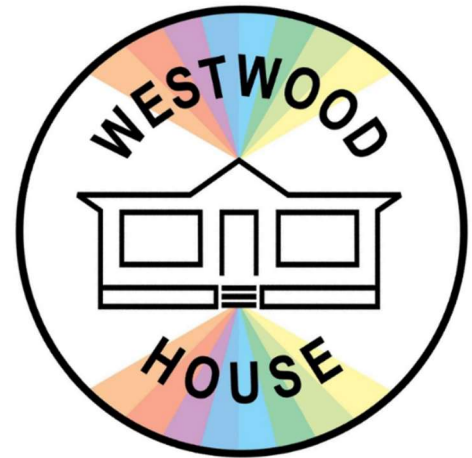
CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT KU!

Exciting things are happening with Lutheran Campus Ministry at

KU!

Save the Date! October 28-30, 2022

- **Friday:** Evening Prayer Worship and fellowship at Fields and Ivy Brewery
- **Saturday:** Sessions by Campus Pastors, afternoon activities, celebration banquet
- **Sunday:** Joint Lutheran Reformation Worship (Location TBD)



Look for more information coming on our website: www.westwoodku.org/lcm100

Join the Lutheran Campus Ministry-KU Team

Care about ministry with college students? Do you like to make a positive impact by giving some of your time? You should consider joining the LCM-KU Ministry Team! The Team is responsible for securing and stewarding the financial resources to support the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU as well as other general executive functions. The Team meets on Zoom and meetings are generally 90 minutes. Team Members are expected to be engaged in work on behalf of the Ministry between meetings and to contribute financially to the Ministry. Members are appointed to three year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. If you are at all interested or want more information, please reach out to Pastor Dan Baldwin through email at pastorbaldwin16@gmail.com or through phone call or text at (785) 592-3443. Thank you for your consideration!

NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL



Immanuel's Church Council met Tuesday, September 27th.

- After robust discussion, the council voted 8-3 to change the church policy regarding masks from required to encouraged. One council member abstained. More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Learned that work on the roof and boiler have commenced.
- Discussed possible changes in the Sunday morning worship schedule that would continue offering a single service but could shift times for various Sunday morning activities.

MASK MANDATE LIFTED

People of God,

It can probably go without saying that, after two and a half years of living in a pandemic, our lives have changed. This has certainly been true at Immanuel, and I've been grateful for how diligent this community has been in keeping one another safe. Since we began to do in-person ministry again, we have asked that everyone wear a mask while indoors, a policy that has been affirmed by the congregation council and the executive committee at their regular meetings.

In light of improving conditions and the availability of vaccines, council has voted to move to a policy where masks are no longer required, but are encouraged. As before, we ask you to be conscientious in how you participate in ministry at Immanuel, staying home if you're sick, testing diligently if you have been exposed, and continuing to be respectful of others, guided by mutual care for each other and the community as a whole.

As in the past, we will continue to monitor local conditions twice a month, keeping an eye on test positivity rate, cases, and hospitalizations in Jackson, Clay, Johnson, and Wyandotte counties. If conditions worsen, we may return to requiring the use of masks, and while I hope that doesn't happen, I appreciate your understanding that it might be necessary. Thank you for the ways you continue to show care to each other in these uncertain days.

In Peace, Pastor Micah Sievenpiper

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND WORSHIP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalmody: Psalm 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: John Anderson

Lay Reader: Melodee Blobaum

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Linda Taylor

Altar Committee: Karen Bame, Heather Winker

Organist: Betty Bauer

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Terry & Lori Kueker

OCTOBER 9

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalmody: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Presiding Minister: Pastor Dan Baldwin

Assisting Minister: Tori Friedrich

Lay Reader: Jerri B. Youngerberg

Crucifer: BJ Laven

Communion Steward: Linda Fox

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Linda Taylor

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Ken Beckmann, Josie Youngerberg, Connie Ross

OCTOBER 16

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Beth Callstrom

Lay Reader: Jessie Laughridge

Crucifer: Milan Hanson

Communion Steward: Melodee Blobaum

Altar Committee: Beth Callstrom, Karen Bame

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Rick Wilcox, Hastings Family

OCTOBER 23

First Reading: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalmody: Psalm 84:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Connie Benolkin

Lay Reader: Connie Ross

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Karen Bame

Altar Committee: Ellen Wilcox, Heather Winker

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Scott Thompson, BJ Laven, Jack Friedrich

OCTOBER 30

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalmody: Psalm 32:1-7

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Presiding Minister: Rev. Micah Sievenpiper

Assisting Minister: Karen Bame

Lay Reader: Jean Nuernberger

Crucifer: Ingrid Peterson

Communion Steward: Rick Sundell

Altar Committee: Bonnie Thomas, Melodee Blobaum

Organist: Robert Barthel

Media: Milan Hanson

Ushers: Lori & Terry Kueker, Scott Thompson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Here's a look at upcoming events that will take place at Immanuel or via Zoom:

Friday, September 30

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Saturday, October 1

9:30 a.m. Shin Do Ryu Karate, Luther Hall

12 p.m. Soundwave, Sanctuary

Sunday, October 2

8:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Luther Hall

9:30 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Coffee/ Refreshments, Luther Hall

10:45 a.m. Adult Forum, Spong

1 p.m. Blautaler German Dancers, Luther Hall

3 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

Monday, October 3

5 p.m. Youth Chorus, Gathering Space, Luther Hall, Sanctuary, Spong

Tuesday, October 4

6 p.m. Scandinavian Dancers, Luther Hall

Wednesday, October 5

NONE

Thursday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Choral Spectrum, Luther Hall

7 p.m. OA-KC, Gathering Space

7 p.m. Social Ministries, Zoom

Friday, October 7

3:30 p.m. World Folk Dancers, Luther Hall

Join An Event Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5143355703>

Meeting ID: 514 335 5703

One tap mobile: +13017158592, 5143355703# US

Visit <https://immanuelkc.org/calendar> to view the full calendar of upcoming events at Immanuel. If you have questions or would like to add an event to the calendar, contact the church office, 816-931-8483 or office@immanuelkc.org.

MORE NEWS TO USE

SCAMS KEEP COMING: BE ALERT

A recent email that appears to be from Pastor Micah requests help with an Immanuel reimbursement. That email actually is not from Pastor Micah. It is a scam. If you receive a similar email, delete it. You are welcome to call Pastor Micah or the church office with questions.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Our work together matters — to each other and to the wider community. Your contributions help Immanuel do its work. You may give by:

- Placing contributions in the offering plate on Sundays.
- Mailing checks to the church, 1700 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO, 64111.
- Donating online through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).
- Setting up an automatic payment through your financial institution.

Additional ways to support Immanuel include [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_sml) — simply register, and Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to Immanuel with every purchase you make. Thank you for giving to Immanuel! Questions? Please contact the church office, office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Old Hyde Park Historic District and The Heart of Westport is having a clean up day, October 1, 2022 from 8 a.m. to noon. Scrap metal and glass recycling, donations, dumpster use and education on recycling and littering, provided at **3801 Wyandotte Street, Kansas City, MO 64111**

OFFICE CLOSED

The Immanuel office **will be closed Monday, Oct. 10**, which is Indigenous People's Day.

THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER

Your prayers, calls, notes and cards can brighten someone's day.



Members of Immanuel

Lila Aamodt, Rick Crawford, Andree Cuthbertson, Pat Durie, Kevin Fewell, Peg Himebaugh, Naomi Karneier, Dottie Keough, Terry Kueker, Carmen Norris, Ellen Parson, Carol Powers, Deanne Schlehuder, EB Walker and Carolyn Wilson

Friends of Immanuel

Cheri Hernandez, niece of Carmen Norris
Family and friends of Louis Halsey, father of Nancy Beckmann
Karen Brooks, sister of Beth Callstrom
Baby Cruz and the Brown Family, family of Jean Nuernberger
James, Jim and Ethel Clanin, family of Lori Clanin
Darlene Henninger, aunt of Catie Tomlin
Normajean Holtje, cousin of Mike Ortmann
Betty Ladwig, mother of Kate Hauber and Cece Atherton
Angela Lingle, aunt of Tori Friedrich
Steve Lucht, friend of Bill and Mary Jo Moore
Dale & Kay Mowbray, friends of Deanne Schlehuder
Nancy's mother and sister, friends of Linda Setterburg
Patrick, friend of Melodee Blobaum's family
Beth Shepard, sister of Patti Winkler
Janet & Randy Spicer, friends of Mary Lynn Coleman-Renoe
Pam Staggs, sister of Connie Ross
Family & Friends of Donald Vought, father of Donna Roth
Family & Friends of Ted Werbin, friend of Linda Fewell
Women of Westport Oxford House, friends of Immanuel

If you would like to add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list, contact the church office. Names will remain on the list for three months unless you indicate otherwise.

Email ImmanuelKCPrayerTeam@gmail.com to request prayer for someone who does not wish to appear on the public list.



10/18 Mary Arney
10/20 Connie Ross
10/22 Micah Harris
10/24 Bob Hyland
10/26 Jessie Laughridge
10/26 George Nelson
10/29 Gena Atzenweiler
10/31 Laurel Gibson
10/31 Natalie Hyland

10/3 Dane Callstrom
10/6 Ellen Parson
10/7 Suzanne Steffen
10/9 Lisa Erickson
10/10 Louisa Gear
10/11 John Gardner
10/12 Laura McGrew
10/14 Dave Wahlgren
10/15 Madelyn Dalbom
10/15 Nolan Gear

IMMANUEL LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Rev. Micah Sievenpiper, pastor
msievenpiper@gmail.com
Suzanne Anderson, music director
suzanneandersonilc@gmail.com
Robert Barthel, organist
Robert.Barthel@hotmail.com
Rachel Decator, parish coordinator
office@immanuelkc.org or 816-931-8483
Phillip Cooper, building superintendent
pcoopq@yahoo.com or 816-666-2468

COUNCIL

Connie Benolkin, president
Bonnie Thomas, vice president
Melodee Blobaum, secretary
Kathy Linder, treasurer
Linda Fox, financial secretary
Henrik Andersen
Randy Callstrom
Mason Carey
Elizabeth Hastings
Lynden Peters
Sara Prem
Janette Rodecap
Scott Thompson