



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

September 2025

Pastor's Pen

- Like many of you, I am addicted to social media Like Facebook or Tik Tok. One of the downsides of technology is how we become immersed in apps that help us escape. I have noticed that often I will start to watch a few videos only to find I have wasted an hour watching social media. What is the allure of apps and the like? I believe it is more than mindless scrolling. In some way we are seeking connection with others and also, to understand how others are dealing with life as we are. It is fascinating to hear the way others are facing challenges and yet are finding strength in unique ways.

- In a way, social media teaches all of us a truth. Each of us is a story and how we learn to deal with life says much about who we are and how we grow and develop. In the Christian faith we have always respected this truth. It is called spiritual growth or sanctification. Both of these words are hard to define and seem a little outdated. So, let's try another expression - "growth in our Christian story".

Church Staff

Rev. Scott R. Lee *Pastor*

Kathleen Schneider

Director of Music

Patricia Clerico

Secretary

Church Council

Jean Crane

Fran Fisher

Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus

Colleen Kelly *President*

Joe Kintsche

Karl McClellan

Joyce Morrison, *Secretary*

Fred Warner

Jeanne Warner, *Treasurer*

Don Watts, *Vice President*

Immanuel Lutheran Church

501 Chester Pike

Norwood, PA 19074

610-586-5860

Immanuelnorwood.org

The theme of growth in the New Testament is a bit tricky. It isn't quite obvious, but it is a theme of our faith. Paul hints at it in I Corinthians 13:13.

"And now faith, hope, and love abide these three; and the greatest of these is love."

What he is saying is that sanctifying grace is synonymous with God's love. The more we practice God's love the more we grow in our Christian identity. Our personal story is a story of how we express, witness, and grow in love for ourselves and one another. Sadly, many folks never find this truth. Many folks want to spew hatred, ignorance, etc. And, this is their story.

But this is our story - Let us be the ones called to love God and neighbor and may we see each new day as an opportunity to craft a beautiful story of growth in God's love.

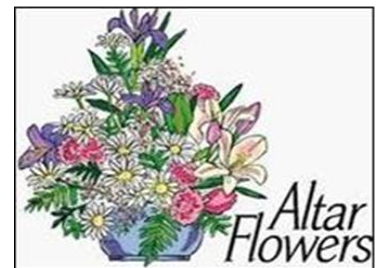
- Pastor Lee

Pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com

ACME

Acme/ShopRite Gift Cards! They are used like cash at any of the area stores. There is no extra charge for the certificates. **Our church receives 5% of the cost of the coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.

Sponsor Altar Flowers! Call Fran Fisher at 610.586.3095 with the details of when you would like to sponsor the altar flowers, and the wording of dedication you would like to appear in the Sunday bulletin for that day. Spruce up the Altar!! Flowers are \$30.





Sponsor Bulletins and/or Newsletters: Call Patty Clerico, Secretary, at the church office. Let her know the dedication and when you would like to sponsor. The cost is \$20 for each publication.



SAVE THE DATE !

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC AND CHRISTIAN ED KICK OFF!

Sunday, September 7, we're planning fun (and food) for everyone! **From 10:00 – 10:45 am** see the details below
11:00 am – informal worship (in the church)

NOON – Our annual picnic is on the church lawn! Sign up to bring a dish or dessert to complement our favorite fried chicken.



CHRISTIAN ED

We will be kicking off the new year of **Christian Education** offerings with an Intergenerational Event on *September 7th before the Church Picnic at 10am.* The event will be followed by the church service and then the picnic. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be working on silly Mad Lib Bible stories and creating posters to go with them. We hope you can come and join in the fun with members of all ages in the church.



Immanuel's Weekly Virtual Bible Study Returns in September ☺

Our **ZOOM Bible study** takes place on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM** for one hour, beginning on **September 17th**. We will be picking our next topic very soon using **Right Now Media!** If you have a suggestion for a topic please let us know! The sessions are fun, educational and thought provoking! They provide a great way to learn more about the Bible while sharing how Jesus shows up in our lives today. Sessions are led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner, so please contact one of these gentlemen with questions or suggestions. Please join us after Labor Day!! Have a Blessed Summer!!

**YOU ARE
A BIBLE
CHARACTER!**



The Little Food Pantry

Thanks for your continued contributions to the Pantry. Let's keep up the good work. Our neighbors are grateful! If you have **nonperishable food** to add to our inventory, come to the church (call first please, - 610-586-5860) during office hours, M-F 9:00 – 1:00, ring the doorbell, tell Patty you have a food donation and when she buzzes you in, leave your donation inside the door to the left (please place items that could be chewed by a mouse in the plastic bin). OR if there is room in the pantry, just put your donation there.



Property continues to ask your support with the purchase/donation of paper products and cleaning supplies (paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, toilet bowl cleaner, counter cleaner, trash bags 13gal and 33gal size) to keep our cabinets stocked. Items can be placed on the table in the cloak room. Please prayerfully consider what you might be

able to do to help. If you'd like more details about what is involved, and how you might be able to help, please see Fred Warner, Chairperson for the Property Committee.

RESOURCE NEWS

September is Here!

As we enter September and look ahead to the start of autumn, it's natural to look back on the summer. We are happy to report that the dreaded "**Summer Slump**" only showed its ugly head mostly in July. Many have done a good job with their giving....**THANK YOU!!** As of this writing (early August) we hope we have a strong finish to the month of August. Remember God's amazing generosity never takes time off...Thankfully for all of us!!

So What Can You Do....??

- Do your best to give regularly and if you did miss a week or two, please try to make it up.
- Support all of our fund raisers, especially **BOSCOV'S** and the ongoing **Food Gift Coupons!**
- **Make giving easy and automatic!** Consider this.....there are **two ways** you can do this:
 - #1. **Your Bank** >>>>can set up a monthly cashier's check to be drawn on one of your accounts and mailed to the church. This is a recurring process so you don't have to worry about it! For example Wells Fargo will help you set this up **at no cost to you!** Contact your bank and they can help you set it up.
 - #2. **Tithely** >>>>Consider using the safe, secure, easy virtual method with the QR code below with your smart phone. There are also buttons on our website and Facebook pages. Tithely can also set up a recurring, automatic monthly donation using one of your credit cards. There is a nominal fee with this.



- ❖ One Summertime casualty we did have was one of our Air Conditioning Units failed. The Property Committee is leading the repair and the estimate that we have as of this time is \$1000. If you would like to make a contribution toward this, please put your donation in an envelope and just write **AC** and your envelope number on the outside.



- ❖ Finally, with Autumn comes cooler weather and eventually turning on the heat. Our new monthly budget has been received, and it will be \$1300./month plus the Maintenance contract. Soon after Labor Day you'll see our new VBS mascot "**Scout**" on our heating oil campaign board.....stop by...say hello....and if you can, take an envelope to help with this cost.

Thank you to all of you who give of your time, talents and treasures!

Sincerely, Your Resource Committee: Karl McClellan, Jeanne Warner & Sandy Hendrick

Cars, Coffee and Christ Event #3: September 6th, 2025!

This Outreach event is a team effort with Immanuel, Norwood, and St Matthew, Woodlyn. Our gathering for “Cars, Coffee & Christ” gives us a chance for fellowship, sharing stories, raising prayer concerns, enjoying snacks and giving back to the community. Our next event will be Saturday, **September 6th** (weather permitting) in St Matthew’s parking lot, from 8:30 to 10:30 am. Please check our web sites and bulletins for updates. We’ll again have the feature we started in June where children can sit in Karl’s car and get a picture. We hope you might come out and join us! We’d love to see more members of our two congregations come on out! See Karl McClellan (krmcfamily@aol.com) with any suggestions/questions you may have.



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CARS, COFFEE & CHRIST

HOSTS: Immanuel, Norwood and St. Matthew, Woodlyn
Lutheran Churches in St. Matthew’s Parking Lot



SATURDAY from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
September 6, 2025

BRING SOMETHING TO SHOW, OR JUST COME FOR THE COFFEE!

GPS: 160 Fairview Road, Woodlyn, Pa. 19094

For more information - Karl McClellan
krmcfamily@aol.com
610-761-4804



www.immanuelnorwood.org
www.stmatthewlutheranwoodlyn.org

The Power of Prayer

Thank you for including the following individuals in your daily prayers.

Amy Williams
Eleanor Kephart
Barbara Calciano
Marie Parnell
Art Hunter
Steve King
Steve

Sylvia Hunsberger
Frank Otto
Gay Kuhn
Baby Caden
Joan Truman
Kathleen Cirucci
Crystal Gaglione

Gina & Jamie Monteleone
Gerhart Urban
Chris Baker
Alfino
Adam
Peggy Coleman

Comfort to those enduring hardships.
People and their families battling cancer
All those waiting for organ transplants
Peace around the world



Remembering our Baptisms September 2025

Barbara Stauffer

Olivia Paglia

Jackson Firsker

Thomas Graham

Charlotte Corcoran

Adelyn Corcoran

Jillian Eddy



It's that time of year again when Property is seeking individuals to help with maintaining the outside grounds of Immanuel. We have been blessed with a very experienced "team" of people through the Property committee who take care of the lawn with over 200 years of experience! These 200 years are across three people and if you do the math you'll see why at the

moment "Old Guys Rule" but we really do need added able bodied hands to pitch in. Immanuel lawn care season has started as of the Wednesday 16 April. Typically, on a weekly basis (weather permitting) the effort is:

1. Pick up the trash,
2. Cut the grass in front of the church,
3. Cut the grass along Winona Ave side,
4. Trim along edges,
5. Blow off/sweep the sidewalks.



Presently it takes one of the current "Old Guys" about 2 hours to take care of these tasks. Added hands, and teaming people up, could make it go faster and lighten the load.

SHARE CHRISTMAS LOVE WITH FAIR ACRES RESIDENTS

The Outreach Committee will coordinate our participation in the Giving Tree program at Fair Acres. Residents make Christmas gift requests and Beth Funk will gather some for our congregation to fulfill. In September we will be asking for volunteers to agree to grant Christmas wishes to some residents. **The gift value is expected at approximately \$25.** Let's open our hearts and fulfill a LOT of Christmas wishes!





Thank you to all who planned, participated and made this year's Vacation Bible School such a terrific experience for all! You all are the bestest!!





September Events at Immanuel

Sunday September 7

10:00 Christian Ed Kick Off

11:00 Worship

12:00 Picnic

Sunday –September 21

10:00 Christian Ed

11:00 Worship

12:00 Council Meeting

Sunday –September 14

10:00 Christian Ed

11:00 Worship

12:00 Outreach Committee Meeting

Wednesday September 24

9:00 – 11:00 Bible Study @ St.
Matthew's Woodlyn

7:00PM -9:00PM Zoom Bible Study

Tuesday – September 9

2:15PM Resource Committee Mtg

Sunday –September 28

10:00 Christian Ed

11:00 Worship

Wednesday – September 17

7:00 PM – 9PM Zoom Bible Study

ImmanuelLutheranChurch
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