



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

## February 2025 Newsletter

### Pastor's Pen

I hope this letter finds you well and excited about the year ahead. I am excited about many offerings here at Immanuel this year. The new year is often a time to think about things we want to do differently in the new year. Many times, we are looking to improve our health is some way. Part of our health is our ability to let go of life's stressors.

I attended an ordination for one of my seminary friends. At the ceremony, the preacher's sermon focused on making the ordinary extra-ordinary. Here we are at the beginning of the year; how do we make another ordinary year extraordinary?

"I was waiting for something extraordinary to happen, but as the years wasted on, nothing ever did unless I caused it."

– Charles Bukowski

Extraordinary results are a matter of repeating ordinary actions over a long period of time. Start with ordinary.

Ask yourself these questions:

What extraordinary thing are you going to make happen for yourself this year? What are the first small steps you can take towards making it happen this week? What are some realistic expectations for progress you can hold, to prevent yourself from getting discouraged and burning out (by February)?

#### church Staff

Rev. Scott R. Lee

*Pastor*

Kathleen Schneider

*Director of Music*

*Unfilled position*

*Secretary*

#### Church Council

Jean Crane

Fran Fisher

MaryLyn Horne-Onimus

Colleen Kelly

Joe Kintsche

*President*

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](http://Immanuelnorwood.org)



Take that initial step towards something extraordinary. Share the goal with me and the list you came up with via email. Next month I'll compile some of the best/most common answers.

Pastor Lee

**Our 135<sup>th</sup> Memory Cross is “mostly” Here!!!!....and Karl Goofed!!!**

The spirit of God has been flowing through Immanuel Lutheran Church for 137+ years! As part of our 135<sup>th</sup> celebration we decided to build a Memory cross! **It is “mostly” here,** temporarily hanging in the Hospitality area right by the entrance to the cloak room. The cross is made up of multicolor craft sticks on which members wrote their family names, memories, milestones, activities, events, blessings, etc. **Have you looked for the stick you wrote on?** If so and you could not find it....that is where I goofed! As I was going through the 135<sup>th</sup> materials, I found SEVEN sticks which we collected, and I missed when assembling the cross! I apologize and I promise before it gets displayed permanently, they will be added. (NO STICK LEFT BEHIND!). If you have a suggestion for final placement, please see me.

Thank you! Karl McClellan on behalf of the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

**HELP YOUR CHURCH WHILE YOU EAT!!**

WE SELL ACME/SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS!!!

AVAILABLE IN **\$10 - \$100** DENOMINATIONS!!

FOR EVERY GIFT CARD WE SELL **We keep 5%!!**

Please see Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus on Sundays to purchase gift



**Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group in February!**

Pack lunch and join us on the 3rd Thursday of February, the 20<sup>th</sup>, at noon for good company, conversation and fellowship. Hope to see you in the basement hospitality area! Enter through the Chester Pike entry.



## Severe Weather Policy

In the event of severe winter weather please call the church office at 610.586.5860 for a recorded announcement on the status of Sunday morning services. The closing announcement will be made no later than 6:30 AM to ensure ample time to plan your morning.

**Souper Bowl is Coming!** On Sunday February 9, we will celebrate the Super Bowl by collecting soups for our Little Free Pantry. Please bring a can or two with you when you come to worship on Super Bowl Sunday! We'll have a display in the hospitality area so we can see how much soup we gather on that day.



## Congregation Statistics

2024 Average Weekly Attendance – 34

2024 Confirmed Membership – 84



Immanuel Lutheran Church commits to celebrating the love of God with ALL people as we are all made in God's image. **We are committed to racial equity in our congregation, community, and country.** Whatever your abilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, race, culture, faith tradition or economic circumstance; whatever your past or present – you are welcome to share in God's love and our community.

# 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  
Pat broolly  
Kay Yates  
Frank Otto  
John Law

Friends and families of those recently departed:

Fred Dohrmann and Bud McClellan

People and their families battling cancer

Comfort to those enduring hardships

Peace around the world

## Remembering our Baptisms

**February 2025**

Carol Hendrickson  
Patricia Barker  
Caddie Campbell

Alexis Paglia  
Jane McGuire  
Don Watts

Thanks for participating in our **Annual Meeting**. Congratulations to our new Church Council Members: Jean Crane and Fred Warner. Thanks to our long-standing Council Members. There are still two openings for one-year terms. If you want to check out what Council service involves, you can be appointed to fill one of those terms with no obligation to continue

## Valentine's Month is here.....It is all about LOVE!!!

The second month of 2025 is already here! We are just coming out of our annual meeting and looking forward to Valentine's Day. This makes the month of February a month for LOVE and a chance for us to show our LOVE for our church and God's work in our community. Your LOVE in 2024 showed the generosity that helped us support our mission which was critical. As you digest the annual report you will notice that we are projecting a deficit which we will all have to work together to solve. A key to this can be continued generosity with things like your previous donations to the roof repair that we paid for in 2024 and were proud to say the PPP Loan will be paid off in early 2025!! We hope and pray for your continued generosity to keep this level of donations coming to help the general fund even though these specific projects are now ending. Look for more information as we move into 2025

Again, a BIG Thank you to the Outreach committee for the "Because of God's Great Mercy" Stewardship campaign. Now it is up to us.

### What Else Can You Do??

- Follow through with your 2025 Stewardship commitments! (If you have not yet responded please do).
- Support all of our fund raisers especially 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 at no cost to you!. This is a recurring process, so you don't have to worry about it! 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 using 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 for this.



- The Heating Oil Season continues! Take time to meet our Mascot, “LU” from Vacation Bible School at the poster in the Hospitality area and while there please take an “OIL” envelope to contribute a little extra if you can.

“Thank you” to all of you who give of your Time, Talents and Treasures!

We wish you all a wonderful Valentines Day!

Sincerely, Your Resource Committee:

Karl McClellan, Jeanne Warner & Sandy Hendrick

### **Come Join Our Weekly Virtual Bible Study on Wednesday Evenings!**

Our **Zoom Bible study** rolls on, **Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:00PM**. All you need is your Bible and we’ll provide the discussion questions when we “connect.” If you would like a copy of the session *Study Guide*, please go to the mailboxes in the rear of the Hospitality Area and on the left-hand lower corner you’ll find “Zoom Bible” with copies for that week in a folder. Sessions are led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. We are using material from *Right Now Media* and are currently doing a series on “Ecclesiastes” which you can join at any time! Just go to our web site, [www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org), and click on the “Church Calendar” tab, then scroll to the **ZOOM LINK FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**. If you are unable to use the video link, you can use your phone to connect. **To use the dial-in option:** Simply dial **one** of the numbers below at the start of the event. You will then be asked to type in the meeting ID followed by the pound (#) key. You may be prompted to enter the meeting passcode as well followed by #.

**Dial In Numbers:** +1 301 715 8592 OR +1 312 626 6799 US (

**Meeting ID:** 897 7827 9740 **Passcode:** 952485

# February Events at Immanuel

## Sunday – February 2

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 Worship & Music  
Christian Education

## Wednesday – February 4

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## Sunday – February 9

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 Joint Council

## Wednesday – February 11

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## Sunday – February 16

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 Church Council



## Wednesday – February 18

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## Thursday – February 19

12:00 Half Century Lunch

## Sunday – February 23

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship

## Wednesday – February 26

7:00 Zoom Bible Study



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.

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
501 Chester Pike  
Norwood, PA 19074

Immanuelnorwood.org  
610-586-5860

