

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

September 2026

Pastor's Pen

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth! Do you not perceive it?"

—Isaiah 43:18–19

There is something hopeful about a new beginning. A new season, a new chapter, a fresh opportunity, or simply the chance to wake up in the morning and try again. New beginnings remind us that our story is not finished.

Isaiah speaks these words to people who had experienced loss, uncertainty, and tremendous change. God reminds them that while they may remember what has happened in the past, they should not allow the past to determine what God can do in the future. "I am about to do a new thing," God says. "Now it springs forth."

This is a message we need to hear as a church. Isaiah reminds us that God is not finished with us. God is always at work, creating, renewing, and calling us forward.

And we do not make that journey alone.

One of the great gifts God has given us is each another. Sometimes we experience God's presence most clearly through another person. Fellowship is more than gathering together for worship. It is sharing life. It is the conversation after worship, the person who notices when we are missing,



Church Staff

Rev. Scott R. Lee *Pastor*

Kathleen Schneider

Director of Music

Patricia Clerico

Secretary

Church Council

Jean Crane

Kari Dukes

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 laughter shared with a friend, and time spent reflecting on how God shows up in our lives through Bible study.

“Do not remember the former things...” God says; not because the past doesn't matter, but because the future also belongs to God .

Together, let us step forward with faith, hope, and open hearts, trusting the God who continues to make all things new. Join us as we offer several ways to join in bible study. Sunday morning in person, Wednesday in person and Wednesday evening on-line.

Pastor Lee

Pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com



In person weekly Bible Study at St. Matthew's Woodlyn with Pastor Lee, begins on **September 23rd 9:30 AM – 10:30AM** and will cover Sacred Wounds.

Sacred Wounds is an invitation to meet God in the places we often try to avoid. In this series, Dakota Hauck guides viewers through a biblical and honest exploration of pain, suffering, and healing, revealing how God does not waste our wounds but transforms them into places of beauty, goodness, and truth. Rather than offering easy answers, this study creates space for lament, hope, and deeper trust in Jesus, helping participants discover how suffering can become a sacred place of formation rather than a sign of God's absence



Our **ZOOM Bible study**, on **Wednesday** evenings at 7:00PM for one hour, will be back on **September 23rd**. All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we connect. You'll find the link on our website and how to dial in if that's what you prefer. Sessions are led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. Our topic will come from **Right Now Media!** 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!** We hope you will join us!

Welcome back! Hope you had a great summer. For those who read our summer reading book *The Blessing Effect*, by Robert K. Pozil, I hope you enjoyed it. Sunday morning Adult Sunday School will resume on **Sep 20th at 10:00am** **in the choir room**, when we will discuss our summer book. Feel free to join us! Any questions, please see Jeanne Warner.



Celebrating Our Baptisms

**Barbara Stauffer
Olivia Paglia
Jackson Firsker**

**Charlotte Corcoran
Adelyn Corcoran
Jillian Eddy**

Thomas Graham



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.

The Little Food Pantry Back to school means thinking about **our neighbors and their families who need our help**. Please provide some nonperishable food for the Pantry. Our **neighbors and their pets** will appreciate your thoughtfulness.



Remember that you can place your food right into the pantry, or bring it into the church and place it to the left of the Chester Pike entry door. During the week, the secretary can buzz you in during office hours, 9 am to 1 pm, Mon – Fri. Or you may use the link below to order some approved items for our little pantry from Amazon. Thank you for your help.

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/owner-view/1P5SBOQ5TNWF4>



A social service of our local SEPA Synod, Diakon assists families (referred by Children and Youth Services) in providing adequate care for their children. They also facilitate the reunification of families when children return from foster care. The Outreach Committee has provided a bin in the hospitality area for donations to their work. As of this printing, donations of new or very gently used baby and children's clothing and baby supplies (but not diapers, they have a source for that) would be gratefully accepted. We will coordinate with the staff of Diakon as needs change. Watch the weekly bulletin for updates.



Brown Bag Lunch Club!

Starts back up on Thursday, September 17th in the social hall at 12:00pm. Bring your own lunch and join others for lively discussion and fellowship!

The Power of Prayer

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

Amy Williams	Eleanor Kephart	Joanne P
Barbara Calciano	Marie Parnell	Gina & Jamie Monteleone
Art Hunter	Alfino	Steve
Kathleen Cirucci	Crystal Gaglione	Baby Caden
Michael Jack	Robin Forester	Sun Min
Eileen Chamowski	Scott and Alayna Pezick	Linda
Karen & Bob Grantland	John D	Tom
Joan Truman	Allen Ryan	Rev. Ellen Meissgeier
Donald Griswald	Mike Kintsche	Stephan G
Theresa	Dave	Quintin
Frankie	Joan	Kevin Narcavage
	Craig Sanders	

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



Church Picnic - Rain or Shine

Sunday, September 13th!

After worship, in the basement hospitality area. All welcome...Church will provide fried chicken sign up to bring a side dish or dessert

Show your Immanuel PRIDE!

If you have an Immanuel tee shirt, please wear it for our picnic Sunday – September 13! If you need a tee shirt – we still have red tees available in several sizes (\$18 each). See Colleen Kelly or Joyce Morrison.



Immanuel's Manger Scene turns 75 Years Old in 2026!

As you hopefully saw in the August newsletter, our Nativity scene, first displayed in 1951, will mark its **75th birthday!** I am asking our congregation to consider: what are some ways we might celebrate this milestone? Maybe we do some Christmas Caroling outside at the manger followed by hot chocolate and goodies? Other ideas? Please put on your thinking caps and let me know what ideas you may have! As we prepare to display it for the Advent season there are a few things we could do from a maintenance standpoint to keep it going for years to come. If you're interested in helping with that, please let me know. Thanks to all those who have helped with our Manger scene for 75 years. Early Christmas Blessings to All! Sincerely, Karl McClellan

Christmas is coming! The Outreach Committee is asking for members to shop for a resident of Fair Acres, the Delaware County Geriatric Center. If you are interested in participating, please see Beth Funk or another Outreach Committee member. You will be given the request of a resident, valued at no more than \$25. You will provide the item in a gift bag by mid November.

Special Congregational Meeting, and “Summer Slump Heating Oil Costs



A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL Meeting will be held on 9/13/26 following the 11am service to vote on a loan for the Phase 2 of our HVAC project.

Please see the insert in this newsletter announcing this. Work is underway to gather bids, explore the possibility to replace our aging boilers and convert to natural gas. You'll find the HVAC campaign poster and envelopes in the Hospitality area where you can see how to support this. If you have questions or suggestions about the HVAC project, see Karl McClellan (Resource) or Fred Warner (Property).

OUCH! A Summer slump and Heating Oil Costs

We have seen some soft weeks in terms of attendance and offerings this summer. We have also received the end of budget year statement from our heating oil supplier. The extremely cold winter which drove high oil usage plus the war with Iran that is driving oil prices higher have hit us hard. We owe an additional \$1935. to settle the 2025-2026 budget year. And our 2026-2027 eleven-month budget has increased from \$1300./month to \$1785./month. As we have in the past we will work through this given our congregation's generosity when faced with a challenge. Let us keep in mind that God's amazing generosity is always there.....Thankfully for all of us!! To date your generosity has raised \$4,344. towards the HVAC project. Well done so far Immanuel! If you have questions or suggestions about the HVAC project, please see Karl McClellan (Resource) or Fred Warner (Property).see Karl McClellan (Resource) or Fred Warner (Property).

What Can You Do....??

- ☐ Over the summer if you did miss some offerings, please try to make it up.
- ☐ 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:

- Make giving easy and automatic! Consider this: Your Bank You can arrange for a monthly check to be mailed directly from your checking account to Immanuel. There is usually no charge for this. You can do this through online banking (bill payment) or have a bank representative set it up for you. You can cancel this at any time. It's really convenient.
- 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.



Thank you to all of you who give of your time, talents and treasures!
Sincerely, Your Resource Committee: Karl McClellan & Jeanne Warner

We have a monthly **Healing Service September through May**. The service is the **third Saturday of each month** and is a laying on of hands healing service. It goes from **1pm-2pm**. The actual service itself will take about 30 minutes followed with some quiet time if people want to stay and pray



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
Please Check Our Web Sites for Next Event

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

GPS: 160 Fairview Road, Woodlyn, Pa. 19094

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



www.immanuelnorwood.org
www.stmatthewlutheranwoodlyn.org

Our 1st CCC for 2026 (after 2 rain outs) went GREAT! Weather was beautiful. We had a total of 46 cars (double our previous best), plenty of people (~60+),

We had plenty of coffee plus many homemade goodies! Special Thanks to Immanuel's Deacon Mary Lyn, who though on vacation shared the recipe for her famous Jewish Apple cake and

trusted yours truly(Karl McClellan) to make his first ever cake from scratch, with coaching from my dear wife Darlene (LOL)! It is a BIG HIT every time! And Harry Modesti for his cheesecake plus Carrot cake (also DELICIOUS)! Also, my Thanks to Harry and Dan of St Matthew for helping with set up, parking and hosting! Even had to put cars on the lawn as we filled the parking lot...what a nice problem to have!!





THANK YOU! To everyone who helped with VBS. You made it a success!

This year's VBS was held Aug 10-14th. Our theme was Snowball Mountain Challenge. The children enjoyed an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they found their strength in God. They challenged themselves and discovered how with God, they can do all things. Activities included story time, physical challenges, music, snacks and crafts. Ollie (our theme puppet), along with our Activities Director, Karl, led off our days. This summer, approximately 16 children attended. Food was collected for our pantry and fun was had by all! Thanks again to all who made this possible.



September Events at Immanuel

Sunday September 6

11:00 AM Worship
12:00 PM Worship and Music
Meeting

Tuesday September 8

2:15 PM Resource Meeting

Sunday September 13

PICNIC DAY!!!

10:00 AM Children's
Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship



Monday September 21

7:00 PM Outreach Committee via
zoom

Wednesday September 23

9:30 AM In Person Bible Study
@St. Matt's
7:00PM via Zoom

Sunday September 27

10:00 AM Adult Education
11:00 AM Worship

Wednesday September 17

12:00 PM Brown Bag Lunch Club



Saturday September 19

1:00 PM Healing Service

Sunday September 20

10:00 AM Adult Education
11:00 AM Worship
12:00 PM Council Meeting

ImmanuelLutheranChurch
501 ChesterPike
Norwood,PA19074

Immanuelnorwood.org
610-586-5860

