IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

November 2026



Pastor's Pen

As we move through the fall and begin to look toward the season ahead, we are reminded once again of how quickly the year passes. Before long, Thanksgiving will be here, followed by Advent and the celebration of Christmas. These seasons invite us to slow down, take a breath, and pay attention to what God is doing in our lives.

Thanksgiving gives us a wonderful opportunity to practice gratitude. It is easy to focus on what is missing, what has changed, or what we wish were different. But gratitude invites us to look again—to recognize the blessings that are already present.

We can be grateful for our families and friends, for the people who have walked beside us through difficult times, and for the simple moments that bring joy. We can be grateful for this congregation, for the opportunity to worship together, for those who faithfully serve, and for the ways God continues to work through this community of faith.

Gratitude does not mean that everything in our lives is perfect. Instead, gratitude helps us recognize that even in difficult seasons, God is present. There are always signs of grace if we take the time to notice them.

And perhaps that is one of the best ways to prepare for Advent.

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*
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This year, perhaps we can enter Advent with grateful hearts. Instead of beginning with everything we need to accomplish, we can begin by asking, *What has God already given me? Where have I seen God's presence? Who has been a blessing in my life? Where have I been a blessing?*

Gratitude can change the way we experience the season. It can turn preparation from a list of things to do into an opportunity to recognize God's presence.

The prophet Isaiah reminds us, “Prepare the way of the Lord.” Advent gives us the opportunity to do exactly that—not simply by preparing for Christmas, but by preparing our lives to receive Christ again.

So, as Thanksgiving approaches, let us begin with gratitude. And as Advent draws near, let us carry that gratitude with us.

May we give thanks for where we have been, recognize God's presence with us today, and look forward with hope to where God is leading us tomorrow.

Pastor Lee
Pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com

SPECIAL NOTE: If you attend church and are not able to come forward for communion for any reason, and you still wish to receive, Pastor will bring communion to you. Please speak with him for arrangements.





Pulpit Swap! Sunday, November 22nd! Pastor Drummond from Holy Spirit will preach the 9:00AM service at St. Matthews, and the 11:00AM service here, at Immanuel Lutheran and Pastor Lee will preach at the 10:15AM service at Holy Spirit Lutheran in Secane.



Veteran Recognition On November 8th, we will recognize the military members of our congregation active, reserved and retired. If you have served, please let Pastor know so that you can be recognized. The names will be read during the service. Please join us so that we can honor and appreciate military members of our church family.

Our "ZOOM" Bible study is on Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM for one hour. We are currently doing a series on the gospel of Luke, which you can join along the way. 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 topics 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! Please note that we will **not have Bible Study the night before Thanksgiving, November 25th .**

Christian Ed!



We have started adult and children's Sunday School. The 8 children we have will be learning about children in the Bible. We would love a little help with Sunday School for some crafts and activities. There are several different ages in the program, and we'd like to offer the older children more of a challenge. Teaching a lesson would not be required, however ***background check and child abuse check is mandatory***. Please contact Colleen, Vicki or Jeanne Warner if you are interested.

We will also be working on another intergenerational event to be held soon. The children have created a banner titled "I Love Immanuel." All members of the congregation will be invited to also add their thoughts to the banner. The banner will eventually be hung in the back of the church.

Celebrating Our Baptisms



Emily Narcavage
Nicholas Firsker
Adrienne Narcavage
Kimberly Rodriguez
Jeanne Warner
Elsie Campbell
Charles Rodgers

The Power of Prayer

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

Amy Williams
Barbara Calciano
Art Hunter
Kathleen Cirucci
Michael Jack
Eileen Chamowski
Karen & Bob Grantland
Eleanor Kephart
Marie Parnell
Alfino
Crystal Gaglione
Robin Forester
Tom
Allen Ryan
Craig Sanders
Joanne P
Steve
Baby Caden
Sun Min
Linda
Donald Griswald
Joan Truman

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





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

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.



Brown Bag Lunch Club!

The Brown Bag Lunch Club continues on **Thursday, November 19th** in the social hall at 12:00pm. Bring your own lunch and join others for lively discussion and fellowship!



The Little Food Pantry Cooler weather means thinking about ***our neighbors and their families who need our help***. Please provide **some nonperishable food *(in non-glass containers)*** *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

Diakon 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.



Guitar Building Workshop

Have an electric guitar? Want to modify it, or build a new one? Join us at a Guitar Building Workshop, Saturday, November 21, 2026 from 9:00 am to Noon at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced player, this hands-on workshop is a great chance to get creative, learn new skills, and work on your own guitar project. You can bring a kit to build OR bring your own guitar to modify. Pastor Lee has made several guitars and done extensive modifications to others. He will guide your work. Children younger than 14 need to bring a parent. Please register by sending an email to pastor.Immanuelnorwood@gmail.com

WATCH THE BULLETINS FOR THESE DATES !!!



We will be ordering **Poinsettia Plants** to adorn our Altar area at Christmas. If you would like to place a plant(s) in the Sanctuary, please see one of the Altar Guild members following Sunday service beginning Sunday **November 8th through Sunday, November 29th.** The cost per Poinsettia plant is **$8.00** each. Please use the envelope provided by the Altar Guild members for the completion of your order.



BAZAAR PREPARATIONS! Beginning **November 3rd** we will be making Stromboli on **Tuesday night at 6 PM in the kitchen**. **No experience necessary**. ***When you come for the evening activities, the Chester Pike door will be unlocked.*** Call Mary Lyn at 610-888-2579. She'll send someone to let you in.

We will also need homemade soups. We will have jars for people to use when making your soups at home. Cookies are also needed for the Cookie Walk from your homemade creations

Katie's Attic needs donations of gently used items, no clothing, no electrical items.

Christmas at Fair Acres! 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. Please see future bulletins for exact date**





Christmas is coming! ***Our Christmas Bazaar will be held on Dec. 5!*** Mark your calendars now. Katie's Attic needs donations of gently used items, no clothing, no electrical items. To prepare for the event, Social Ministry is looking for helpers. It's a wonderful opportunity to socialize with your fellow members. We will be needing help for the Christmas Bazaar. Watch for signup sheets thank you for your help.



We are looking to put together a list of members who are willing and maybe even excited to help provide items for occasional coffee hours and events. You don't have to be a baker, store bought is fine as are fruit trays, and drinks.
If you are interested in helping serve Immanuel in the **Feeding the Spirit** group, please let Collen Kelly know. The more the merry and the more folks involved the less times you will be asked to help out.

It's that time of the year Pampered Chef fundraiser will be happening November ninth to the twenty-third. It's a great way to knock some items off your holiday shopping list as well as support the church. More details will be provided closer to the sale but please see Colleen Kelly with any questions.
https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/givethanksfundraiser



Immanuel's Manger Preparing for her 75th Birthday in 2026!

Our Nativity scene, first displayed in 1951, marks her ***75th birthday***! 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 there are a few things we could do from a maintenance standpoint to keep it going for years to come. Restoring the figure of Mary is a fall project I'm taking on. See the "before" photo included here. **SET UP DAY** will be NOVEMBER 28th starting at 9AM. If you're interested in helping, 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



RaiseRight

Ready to start your Christmas shopping? Maybe stock up on restaurants for a night out. Immanuel is selling gift cards for just about every store you may want. Immanuel will get a percentage back from sales. *Forms are available on the table in the hospitality area. Fill out form, make your check payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church and hand in to Jeanne Warner or the office. Dates on which orders will be sent in for purchase will be* ***Nov 15,*** *and* ***Dec 6****.* Gift cards usually come in within a week of ordering. Don't see a store you need, you can go online at www.raiseright.com and see if it is available and add it to your list or ask Jeanne W. and she will check.

SOURCE NEWS



Give Thanks!; Our HVAC Phase 2's New Boilers are Coming!

November is a time to reflect on just how blessed we are as we flow into the Thanksgiving season. As the outside temperatures begin to fall let's remember that another heating season is upon us and we'll have plenty of transitions to go through as we end our dependency on heating oil and move to cleaner burning natural gas. We Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Your generosity so far has really helped with our HVAC campaign. You'll be hearing about the Stewardship campaign through this month, and we ask that everyone prayerfully consider their contributions to the Church keeping in mind God's amazing generosity!

Here are some highlights to keep you informed about the progress on the HVAC project:

- Harmon HVAC is doing the project, cost: $76,000.
- The HVAC giving campaign will continue. Please keep your special donations coming.
- Half payment of $38,000. was made to get the new boilers on order.
- Loan approved by ELCA for the added $40K. New total monthly payment (10 years) to be ~$625.00
- PECO Gas contract signed and executed for the new gas service. Their target install is 11/23/26.
- Plan to run 1 old boiler while one new is installed and operate like that to supply heat until PECO gas is ready, then install 2nd new boiler (By early December is plan right now. PECO (and weather) control the timing).

- We will still be running Heating Oil until gas is ready. We got out of the monthly budget (which was $1785/mo.) and will buy on an "as needed" basis.

This project is a collaboration of the Resource and; Property committees.

What Can You Do??

Support all our fund raisers, especially the ongoing Food Gift Coupons, Christmas Bazaar, Raise Rite, Pampered Chef, and HVAC!

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 smartphone. 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

CALLING ALL SINGERS AND YOU WHO JUST LIKE TO SING!



Choir practice for the Christmas season will begin on **Sunday, November 15th at 9:15 AM in the choir room.** This year will the "Special Choral Christmas" rather than a cantata.
Rehearsals are easy going and light hearted, give us a try!

November **Events at Immanuel**



Sunday November 1
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship
12:00 PM Worship and Music Mtg

Tuesday November 3
6:00 PM Stromboli making

Wednesday November 4
9:30 AM Bible Study in Person @
St. Matthew's Woodlyn
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

Sunday November 8
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship
12:00 Outreach Meeting

Tuesday November 10
2:15 PM Resource Meeting
6:00 PM Stromboli making

Wednesday November 11
9:30 AM Bible Study in Person @
St. Matthew's Woodlyn
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

Sunday November15
9:15 AM Choir Practice
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship
12:00 Council Meeting

Tuesday November 17
6:00 PM Stromboli making

Wednesday November 18
9:30 AM Bible Study in Person @
St. Matthew's Woodlyn
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

Thursday November 19
12:00 PM Brown Bag Lunch Club

Saturday November 21
9:00AM – 12:00PM Guitar Building
with Pastor Lee
1:00 PM Healing Service

Sunday November 22
9:15 Choir Practice
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship

Saturday November 28
9:00AM Nativity Set Up Day

Sunday November 29
9:15 AM Choir Practice
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship

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