

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

April 2026



Pastor's Pen

During the Reformation, leaders like Martin Luther lifted up the phrase *sola scriptura* — “Scripture alone.” This did not mean that Christians ignore tradition, reason, or experience. Rather, it meant that the Bible is the final authority in matters of faith and life. Scripture is the lens through which we understand God, ourselves, and the world.

Yet *sola scriptura* does not call us to close our eyes to what is happening around us. In fact, Jesus himself challenged the crowds for failing to read their own moment in history. In the Gospel of Matthew 16:3, He says, “You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.”

We are people of the Word — and people living in a particular time and place. To hold *sola scriptura* faithfully means two things:

We return again and again to the biblical story creation, covenant, cross, and resurrection. In Scripture we meet the living Christ. We are corrected, comforted, and called into deeper discipleship. The Bible shapes our imagination

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

so that we see the world as God sees it: broken yet beloved, wounded yet redeemable.

We have wars and rumors of wars, anxiety and isolation, rapid technological change and political division, as well as economic uncertainty. At the same time, however, we have movements for justice, deeper conversations about mental health, and renewed hunger for spiritual meaning.

Reading the signs of today does not mean reacting in fear or chasing every cultural trend. It means asking:

- Where is God at work?
- Where are people longing for hope?
- Where is the church being called to speak truth, offer mercy, and embody Christ's love?

Sola scriptura anchors us so we are not swept away by every passing wind. But it also frees us. Because Scripture tells the story of a God who enters history — in real time, in real communities, in flesh and blood.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). That means God cares about this very moment.

As a congregation, we continue to gather around Word and Sacrament, trusting that the Spirit who inspired Scripture is still active today. May we be people rooted in the ancient story and awake to the present one grounded in the Word, attentive to the signs, and bold in hope.

Pastor Lee

Pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com



Remembering Our Baptisms

Debra Rodgers

Steven Russell

Benjamin Graham

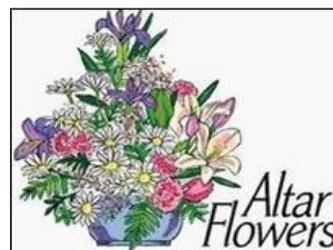
Matthew Graham

Colleen Strahlau

Susan Hornberger

Robin Woodrow

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.

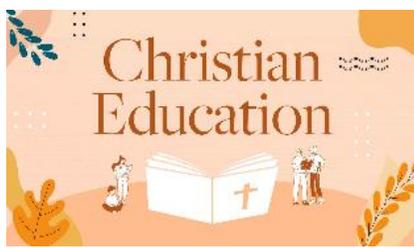


We have a monthly **Healing Service September through May.** The service is the **third Saturday of each month** and is a laying on of hands healing service. It is from **1pm-2pm**. The actual service itself will take about 30 minutes followed with some quiet time if people want to stay and pray. If cancelled due to the weather, the church phone greeting will tell you. 610-586-5960

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.



April 2 nd	Maundy Thursday	7pm @St. Matthew's Woodlyn
April 3 rd	Good Friday	12 noon @ Ridley Lake
April 5 th	Easter Sunday	9:30- 10:30AM Breakfast 11:00 Worship at Immanuel



The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, 4/4 at 11 am. We will meet in the social room downstairs. Children aged 2 -10 are welcome to attend. Please bring your own basket for collecting the eggs. A light lunch will be served after the hunt.

Please stay tuned for information about vacation Bible School, which Jeanne Warner has graciously agreed to head up again this year.

Severe Weather Policy

In the event of severe winter weather please call the church office at **610.586.5860** for a recorded announcement regarding the status of Sunday morning services. Closing announcements will be made no later than 6:30AM to ensure ample time for travel planning.



The Little Food Pantry Let's help our neighbors. Please provide some nonperishable food for the Pantry. Our *neighbors and their pets* will appreciate your thoughtfulness. We are grateful to the **Southeast Pennsylvania Synod for providing a \$1000 Food Ministry Grant** which will be a great supplement during those times when our congregational donations may not quite meet the needs.



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>

The Power of Prayer

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

Baby Caden	Frank Otto	Art Hunter
Joan Truman	Kathleen Cirucci	Chris Baker Alfino
Crystal Gaglione	Joan Truman	Gina & Jamie Monteleone
Chris Baker	Rev. Eileen Meissgeir	Eileen Chamowski
Amy Williams	Steve	Eleanor Kephart
Barbara Calciano	Marie Parnell	Scott & Alayna Pezick
Michael Jack	Janice Kintsche	Robin Forrester
Joyce	Amy Williams	Steve
Eleanor Kephart	Barbara Calciano	Marie Parnell



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



Immanuel Friends and Members – We need your help!

This request is easy...the office (and most importantly Pastor Lee) need to know that the information on record to communicate with you and your family is current. Some of the information is typically printed in our church directory (but you can opt out) while other information is kept confidential. Pastor has discovered recently that we did not have emergency contact information for some members that are living alone. Also, many of the long standing members still have a land line telephone number listed, but actually only use their cell phones. We will be contacting members who have not responded to our database request by the end of April. Please help us! Thank you.

There are two ways to provide the information. You can use this link <https://forms.gle/w5Gv9Ttatf6mCFzz6or> or visit our website (Immanuelnorwood.org/news-worship.) Or you can use a form (blue paper) to confirm and/or update the information that is in our database. This form is available in the hospitality area before and after worship. The completed form can be given to Pastor Lee or Joyce Morrison. If you have questions, you can call the church office and speak to Patty Clerico, church secretary.



DIAKON We learned more about Diakon (which means helper in Greek) when two staff visited one of our midweek Lenten services. Our church provides office space for Delaware County Diakon, a social service agency of the Lutheran Synod, which provides support to families who are at risk of having children removed to foster care. They assist 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 offering from the Lenten services was given to support their ministry.

The Outreach Committee is creating a means for Immanuel to support their ministry in an ongoing way. A bin will be located in the hospitality area to collect items that Diakon can use to support families. Items that would be helpful include new or very gently used baby and children's clothing; baby supplies (but not diapers, they have a source for that). Periodically the Diakon staff will let us know of families who would benefit from a delivery of groceries, or a holiday meal basket. The items that are needed will be updated frequently so that we can best help this ministry. Watch the Sunday bulletins for current information.

RESOURCE COMMITTEE NEWS:

April is Here!

Lent will come to an end with the marvelous blessing of the Resurrection on Easter! Everything we have comes from God! Let us show our gratitude for the gift of his Son Jesus through what we do with our time, talents and treasure.

How Can We Show Our Gratitude ?

Make giving easy and automatic! Consider this...there are three ways you can do this:

- 1. 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. Meanwhile, your bank will send a check every month on the date you select! It's really convenient.
- 2. Support all our fund raisers, especially the ongoing Food Gift Coupons....we all eat right?

- 3. 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.



AC for Sanctuary Repair Approved and HVAC Project Starts!

Council has approved an HVAC Project, jointly presented by Resource and Property, to upgrade the church's air conditioning and begin investigating the replacement of our boilers. The AC work will begin after Easter. We'll use some of our investment funds and a loan from ELCA's Mission Investment Fund to pay for the current effort. Check out the new HVAC display in the Hospitality area to learn more about how you can help with this project. Please see Karl McClellan or Fred Warner for more details.



Thank you for all you all do to support our church's mission!

Sincerely, Your Resource Committee: Karl McClellan and Jeanne Warner



Please Join Us for Weekday** Evening Virtual Bible Study!

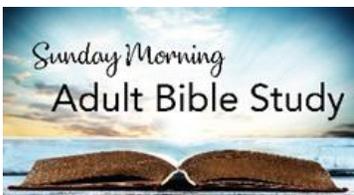
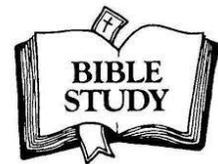
After Easter Zoom Bible study will continue on **Wednesday April 8th at 7:00 PM**. We are using an interactive series from Right Now Media. All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we connect. For a copy of the session study guide, please go to the mailboxes in the rear of the Hospitality Area and on the left-hand lower corner you'll find Zoom Bible with copies *for that week* in a folder. Karl and Fred lead the sessions. You may join at any time! Just go to our website: www.immanuelnorwood.org and click on the "Church Calendar" tab, then scroll to **the ZOOM LINK FOR WEEKNIGHT BIBLE STUDY**.

The web site will be updated with the proper link, connection information with dial in numbers, Meeting ID and Passcode.

If you have any questions, please see Karl McClellan or Fred Warner. Thanks!!

All Are Welcome!!

Weekly Bible Study at St. Matthew's Woodlyn will not meet f April 1st – 8th. In person Bible Study will resume on Wednesday April 15th.



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study is held **10:00am on Sunday mornings** in the choir room. We are starting a 5 week video series on "Easter" lead by J. D. Grear. Please join us for some great discussion. If you have any questions, please see Jeanne Warner.

Cars, Coffee and Christ Event #1 for 2026: April 25th!!

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 first event for 2026 will be Saturday, **April 25th** (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 will have the feature where children can sit in Karl's car and get a picture. We hope you might come out and join us! See Karl McClellan (krmcfamily@aol.com) with any suggestions/questions you may have.

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
April 25, 2026

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

April Events at Immanuel

Pastor on vacation from April 6th – April 11th

Sunday April 5th

9:00 -10:00 Easter Breakfast
11:00 Worship

Wednesday April 8th

7:00PM Zoom Bible Study

Sunday April 12th

10:00 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
12:00 Outreach Meeting

Tuesday April 14th

2:15pm Resource Meeting

Wednesday April 15th

9:00 Bible Study in person
@St. Matts Woodlyn
7:00PM Zoom Bible Study

Thursday April 16th

12:00PM Half Century Lunch

Saturday April 18th

1:00 Healing Service

Sunday April 19th

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

Wednesday April 21st

9:00 Bible Study in person
@St. Matts Woodlyn
7:00PM Zoom Bible Study

Sunday April 26th

10:00 Education Hour
11:00 Worship

Wednesday April 29th

9:00 Bible Study in person
7:00PM Zoom Bible Study

ImmanuelLutheranChurch
501 ChesterPike
Norwood,PA19074

Immanuelnorwood.org
610-586-5860

