



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

## March 2025

### Pastor's Pen

Last month I asked you to send me a list of the extraordinary things you want to make happen for yourself this year. I had no responses but we'll continue on that theme. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans reads; *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.* (Romans 12:2)

You can't grow muscle without pain. You can't find wisdom without failure. You can't build confidence without looking foolish and embarrassing yourself.

All growth has an inherent sacrifice to it.

Changing and improving your life requires you to destroy a part of yourself and replace it with a newer, better part of yourself.

Therefore, growth is, by definition, painful.

How did you grow in 2024? Was the pain worth it?

Destroy that part of yourself you've always wanted to do away with, no matter how painful. Let me know how it goes.

Please send me an email ([pastor.immanuel@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.immanuel@gmail.com)) to let me know your experiences of growth!

Pastor Lee

### Church Staff

Rev. Scott R. Lee

*Pastor*

Kathleen Schneider

*Director of Music*

Patricia Clerico

*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)



## Lenten Worship Opportunities

### Bread of Life

**Ash Wednesday, March 5:** Receive ashes from one of our local ministers at one of two “drive-thru” opportunities: 7:00 – 9:00 am in the parking lot of the White-Lutrell Funeral Home (311 N. Swarthmore Ave, Ridley Park) **OR** Noon – 1:00 pm in the parking lot of Holy Spirit Lutheran (2545 Franklin Avenue Secane, Pa)

**Wednesday Evenings** in Lent we share worship with other Delaware County Lutheran Churches (see the schedule for March below.) All are welcome to any or all these joint worship services. We will experience Dinner Church. The service will be incorporated into our evening meal including communion. Dinner will be a simple one dish meal, with the menu varying from church to church. The combined meal/worship will take about one hour, beginning at 5:30pm. This year’s theme is ***Bread of Life***, and our offerings will be given to the ***Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry***.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Location</b>                        | <b>Speaker</b> |
|-------------|--|----------------|
| 3/12        | Immanuel, 501 Chester Pike, Norwood    | Pr. Seager     |
| 3/19        | Holy Spirit, 2545 Franklin Ave, Secane | Pr. Seager     |
| 3/26        | St. Timothy, 535 Lamp Post Ln, Aston   | Pr. Lee        |

**CHOIR PRACTICE** FOR THE EASTER CANTATA will begin on Sunday, March 2nd. We will meet from 9:15 until 10 a.m. in the Choir Room each week except March 9th.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME AND SING!

### **Irish sweet treats available**



Order your Irish Breads and Irish potato candies by completing an order form (found on the table in the hospitality area). Orders are due by March 9 for delivery on March 16. Thank you Mary Lyn for making these items as a fundraiser for Immanuel.



**Souper Bowl Results: Guess what?** Our informal poll of team supporters overwhelmingly favored the EAGLES. No surprise there! Go Birds! Thank you for the donations to our food pantry. Please remember the pantry when you grocery shop. Our neighbors appreciate it.

## Weekly Virtual Bible Study During Lent moves to Monday Evenings!

Our **Zoom Bible study** rolls on during Lent but so we do not have a conflict with our Mid-Week Lenten services, we'll shift to **Mondays 7:00 to 8:00PM from March 3<sup>rd</sup> through April 7<sup>th</sup>**. We will return to Wednesdays after Holy Week on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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. Karl McClellan and Fred Warner lead the sessions. We are using material from **Right Now Media** - 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 Church Calendar, click on the button – Zoom Bible Study OR use the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81020760512?pwd=X6pvvwMgmInJyCVYbmBdXzWKIVb0Pt.1>

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. Provide the meeting ID followed by the pound (#) key. You may be prompted to enter the meeting passcode as well followed by #.

**Dial In Numbers:** • +1 646 931 3860 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 810 2076 0512    Passcode:873552    We hope you will join us!!



### Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group in March!

Pack lunch and join us on the 3rd Thursday of March, 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.



## **Remembering our Baptisms**

**March**

Florence Grantland

Stephen Firkser

David Firkser

Ryan Firkser

Amy Graham


Thomas Neher

**Healing Service** We have a monthly Healing Service from September through May. The service is on 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

## **March.....it's time for LENT, St. Patrick's Day and Spring Begins !!**

Hard to believe we are already in the third month of 2025! With Ash Wednesday comes the beginning of Lent .....the time to reflect on God's gift to us and the sacrifice of his son Jesus. Hopefully as we get near the end of March and the first day of spring, our winter weather will be behind us. Soon in 2025 our PPP loan will finally be paid off! Our sincere thanks to everyone that helped us make those payments since the impact of COVID. If you could find it possible to continue that gift by switching it to *General fund* once *PPP Loan* is done, that would be wonderful!

### **So..... What Else Can We Do....??**

- Follow through with your 2025 Stewardship commitment.  
If you did not turn in your response form yet, it is not too late!!
- Do your best to give regularly and if you do miss a week, please try to make it up.
- Support all our fund raisers, especially the **Food Gift Coupons!** (We ALL Eat right???)
- **Make giving easy and automatic!** Consider this, there are **two ways** you can do this:
  - #1. **Your Bank** can set up a monthly 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! Contact your bank and they can help you set it up **at no cost to you!** OR you can set it up yourself with on-line banking.
  - #2. **Tithely** >>>>Consider using the safe, secure, easy virtual method with the QR code and 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.

**Thank you from the Resource Committee!**

**Heating Oil Season continues!**



Our Mascot for our Heating Oil campaign....."Lu" the **Firefly** really appreciates all those who do their best to contribute monthly a little extra using *the OIL envelopes you'll find at the BRIGHT YELLOW Heating Oil Campaign poster* board located in the Hospitality area.

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# 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 Brolly  
Frank Otto

Comfort to those enduring hardships.  
People and their families battling cancer  
Comfort to those enduring hardships  
Peace around the world

# Easter Candy

# Easter Flowers



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.

## **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 cards.



# March Events at Immanuel

## **Sunday – March 2**

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 Worship & Music Comm.

11:00 Worship  
12:00 Church Council

## **Monday – March 17**

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## **Monday – March 3**

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## **Wednesday – March 18**

9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt  
5:30 pm Lenten worship details pg.2

## **Ash Wednesday – March 5**

9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt  
7:00 – 9:00 am Ashes – details pg. 2  
9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt  
12:00 – 1:00 pm Ashes – details pg. 2

## **Thursday – March 20**

12:00 Half Century Lunch

## **Sunday – March 9**

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
12:00 Outreach Comm.

## **Sunday – March 23**

10:00 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship

## **Monday – March 10**

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

## **Wednesday – March 26**

9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt  
5:30 pm Lenten worship details pg.2

## **Tuesday - March 11**

2:15 pm Resource Comm.

## **Sunday – March 30**

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

## **Wednesday – March 12**

9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt  
5:30 pm Lenten worship details pg.2

## **Sunday – March 16**

10:00 Education Hour



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