

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 10 DECEMBER 2018



SHARE IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP





- SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:00 AM
- YOUTH GROUP
- CHOIR
- SUNDAY SCHOOL
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- BIBLE STUDY
- ADULT EDUCATION HOUR
- SOCIAL MINISTRY
- OUTREACH
- HALF CENTURY GROUP

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DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>The Calendar reflects "Church" events only. For information in regard to "Use of Building" by outside groups, please see the church calendar in the church office, or contact Vi Mayberry or Fred Warner.</p>						<p>1 9:00 AM Christmas Bazaar</p>
<p>2 Poinsettia Sale 9:00 AM Education Hour W&M Mtg. 11:00 AM Christian Ed Mtg.</p>	<p>3 6:30 PM Bereavement Group 7:00 PM Yoga</p>	4	5	<p>6 6:30 PM SM Spray Making Bible Study</p>	7	<p>8 9:00 AM  Manger Scene Set-up 11:00 AM Tree Decorating</p>
<p>9 9:00 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Outreach Mtg.</p>	<p>10 6:30 PM Bereavement Group 7:00 PM Yoga</p>	<p>11 6:00 PM Resource Mtg.</p>	12	<p>13 6:30 PM Bible Study</p>	14 Office Closed	15
<p>16 - Cantata 9:00 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Council Mtg. 7:00 PM Youth Group</p>	<p>17 6:30 PM Bereavement Group 7:00 PM Yoga</p>	18	19	<p>20 6:30 PM Bible Study</p>	21	<p>22 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Ministry</p>
<p>23 9:00 AM Education Hour</p>	<p>24 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day </p>	26	27	28	29
OFFICE CLOSED						
<p>30 New Year's Eve Lessons & Carols</p>	<p>30 New Year's Eve  OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>January 1 Office Closed</p>		<p>The LAST DAY for 2018 contributions will be Jan 6, 2019.</p>		

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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PASTOR'S PEN

Luther's explanation of the first commandment is both simple and profound: "You shall have no other gods. What does this mean? We are to fear, love, and trust God above all things." Sounds easy, right? Put God first in your life. Let Jesus take the wheel. Make God your pilot (and not, as saying goes, merely your co-pilot). As people of faith, I believe that we really do want to put God first. But it's so hard to do this!

I confess that, on a daily basis, I love and trust other things more than God. Yes, God is still in the picture, but so often gets crowded out by all the everyday stuff. I love my wife, my family, my friends, my country, my congregation. Sometimes these loves overshadow my love for God. I confess that I trust my own memory, my own instincts and intuitions, my deeply held political commitments, and the news sources that reinforce the beliefs I already have. Sometimes, these things guide my decisions more than my trust in God alone—even though I should know better. I confess that I often worry about pleasing other people more than I worry about pleasing the Lord. I fear rejection, and environmental catastrophe, and nuclear war, and all sorts of other things—even though I know that perfect love casts out fear.

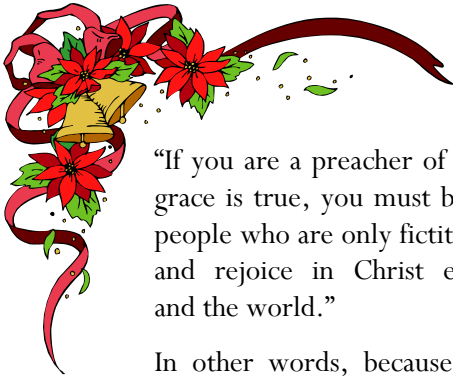
Perhaps you could make a similar confession of your failures to keep the first commandment. So, what then are we to do? In 1521, while Luther was still in hiding after his trial for heresy, he wrote this advice to his friend and colleague, Philip Melancthon:

CHURCH STAFF

- *Pastor*
The Rev. Scott R. Lee
- *Secretary*
Vi Mayberry

CHURCH COUNCIL

- *Tom Graham*
- *Marylyn Horne-Onimus*
- *Colleen Kelly*
- *Joe Kintsche*
- *Frank Martinsen –*
Vice President
- *Joyce Morrison - Secretary*
- *Alex Narcavage*
- *Emily Narcavage -*
Jr. Council
- *Tom Neher - President*
- *Vicki Slotterback*
- *Jeanne Warner - Treasurer*
- *Don Watts*
- *Robin Woodrow*



“If you are a preacher of grace, then preach a true and not a fictitious grace; if grace is true, you must bear a true and not a fictitious sin. God does not save people who are only fictitious sinners. Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly, for he is victorious over sin, death, and the world.”

In other words, because we are human, we are going to sin whether we are churchgoers or not, whether we are Republicans or Democrats, whether we are apolitical or an activist, whether we are ‘nice people’ or not. But this is not a reason to despair. Luther urges us to make the best choices we can and act anyway, trusting that the grace of God is greater than we are.

Who’s your God? The One who loves us more than we deserve. The One who knows us better than we know ourselves. The One who lifts us up when we fall. The One whose grace is always greater than our sin. So sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor

*Support us when you
shop for Christmas*



Amazon donates when you
shop at smile.amazon.com

Start your Christmas shopping online with **Amazon**. Enter through Amazon Smile and select Immanuel Lutheran Church Norwood as your charity and half of 1% will go to Immanuel. Thanks for supporting Immanuel!

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



- Cantata -

Sunday, December 16th - 10:00 AM

- Morning Worship -

Sunday, December 23rd - 10:00 AM

- Candlelight Service -
Christmas Eve - 10:00 PM

- Lessons & Carols -

Sunday, December 30th - 10:00AM

Thank you Members! During November, Pastor Lee and the Outreach Committee have reached out to the congregation to remind us of how God's love and gifts to us can be demonstrated to our congregation, community and world through our actions. God given talent and resources can benefit so many people and demonstrate God's love for the world through our actions. Thank you for taking the step to commit to using of your gifts and resources to benefit Immanuel and the larger community. *God wants us to ". . . please him in every way bearing fruit in the knowledge of God"* (Colossians 1:10). God wants us to give wholeheartedly so we can be productive people in the Kingdom. When we commit our lives and resources to his service, we will hear him say, "*Well done, good and faithful servant!*" (Matthew 25:23).



For those who have not provided a written commitment yet for 2019, copies of the form are available on the table in the hospitality area along with small envelopes. Place your commitment form in the small envelope and label it commitment form. The financial portion will be provided to the treasurer and will be kept confidential.



FINISH YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WITH US!!

WE SELL ACME/GIANT/SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS!!!

NOW AVAILABLE IN \$10 DENOMINATIONS!!

FOR EVERY GIFT CARD WE SELL, AND YOU USE, WE GET 5%!!

For the neighbor that helped shovel your snow, the mailman that always goes the extra mile, or the elderly Aunt that doesn't need another knick knack but could use help with their prescriptions and food!!



SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS MAKE PRACTICAL, USEFUL, AND APPRECIATED CHRISTMAS GIFTS!!

Please see Alex Narcavage on Sundays to purchase gift cards. Cash or checks are welcome!

SAY **MERRY CHRISTMAS** WITH GIFT CARDS BOUGHT THROUGH IMMANUEL AND AT THE SAME TIME, AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU, GIVE BACK TO THE CHURCH





HELP DECORATE IMMANUEL FOR CHRISTMAS!

Please come out and join in the spirit of the holidays on Saturday, **Dec. 8th** at **9:00 AM** to **set-up the Manger and decorating of the Christmas Tree at 11:00 AM**. Anyone who would like to help is more than welcome to stop by, even if for just an hour!



WORSHIP & MUSIC VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	Dec. 2nd	Dec. 9th	Dec. 16th	Dec. 23rd	 Dec. 24th 	Dec. 30th
LITURGIST	D. Watts	K. McClellan	K. McClellan	D. Watts	D. Watts	Leader: D. Watts
LECTOR	J. Crane	V. Slotterback	D. McClellan	H. Eberle	K. McClellan	
USHERS	D. McClellan J. Warner	H. Eberle A. Narcavage	J. Crane J. Warner	H. Eberle A. Narcavage	D. McClellan	Volunteers



Your Church Needs Your Help! We have *one last Insurance Bill* due in December which, as of this writing, we **DO NOT have sufficient** funds to pay the \$2630.00. There are envelopes on the “Thank You” board for **DECEMBER** Insurance right now, **which is Critical.** We really can’t afford to dip into our investments again, we would drop below \$30,000.

Please take an envelope off the board in the Hospitality Area, donate whatever you can, write on your envelope number & place in the offering plate.

Please help support Immanuel in the following ways; weekly white envelope, monthly blue envelope, Acme/ Giant/Shoprite gift cards, Social Ministry Bazaar & Cemetery decoration sale, all new events the Fund Raising Committee are rolling out. Every little bit helps so please do whatever you can!

Thank you! Your Resource Committee

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Our Christmas bazaar was another success and we had a good flow of customers shopping and browsing. The cookie walk continues to be a main attraction along with our beautiful assortment of goodies at our bake table. Thank you to all who donated cookies and/or baked goods. Our soup table was once again plentiful. Stromboli's were a success and will be a yearly event. Ladies get those rolling pins ready for next year! You did an amazing job.

Yard sale, and craft tables continue to create customers attention. Judy continues to do an amazing job in our kitchen with the help of Frank and Joe.

We continue to thank everyone who ordered the "Real Greens" cemetery sprays and cones. The ladies continue to make beautiful sprays and cones. Thank you ladies for your continued time and dedication. They are truly a work of love and compassion.



So another year has passed, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts to: all of the folks who helped man the tables, our dedicated and awesome property committee, our bakers, soup makers, cookie makers and those who donated crafts or yard sale items. Our crafting sessions will return in the fall so put on your thinking caps and help us come up with some new and exciting craft ideas to fill our table. If you don't craft but have some ideas, please feel free to share with the ladies of Social Ministry and we will be happy to try them out. You are simply the best and we have been blessed to have you here at Immanuel.

We hope to see more resources and personnel join social ministry this year so we can continue with our social traditions and help Immanuel thrive. All (men and women) are welcome to join us! A Happy and Healthy New Year to you and yours. May this coming New Year be everything you would like it to be and more. Thank you again to all our Immanuel Family.

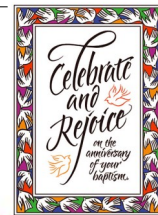
Peace, Joy and Happiness to you all. Janice Kintsche and the ladies of Social Ministry

Our prayers include the following persons as they recall their **Baptism** in **December** and promises made to God and by God:

Joanne Fitzpatrick

Karl McClellan

Matthew Conley Jr

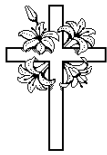




HOMEBOUND MEMBERS BIRTHDAY

Mary Cole ~ December 10th
Betty Wharton ~ December 25th

Please refer to your church directory for address information.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Eleanor Schroeder - October 25, 2018

Eleanor Schroeder's memorial service, led by Pastor Scott Lee, was held graveside at Lawn Croft Cemetery in Linwood, PA on November 1, 2018.

THE POWER OF PRAYER



- Judy Green
Don McGrogan
Brian Hamilton
John Romanelli
Kathie Krakowski
Adele Malloy
Virginia Young
Kim Kaufman
Edna May Potteiger
David Eglin
Craig Sanders



- Karen Roher
Lois Watts
Roger Comer
Suzanne Decoumb
Margaret Swingle
Ned Messick
Deb Meara
Janet Spence Miller
Paul McCandless
Grace Slotterback



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. Closing announcement will be made no later than 6:30AM to ensure ample time to plan your morning.

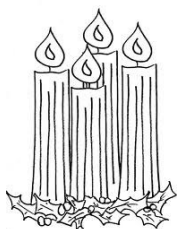


CONGREGATION STATISTICS



	Members Removed	Members Added	Avg. Weekly Attendance	Avg. YTD Attendance
Oct.	2	0	37	42

ADVENT COIN FOLDER REMINDER 



Your Advent Coin Folder can be returned at anytime during the Advent season. The offering received through the Advent Coin folder is used during the winter months to help defray the cost of our heating oil. Prices for this season are expected to be extremely high! Please place your coin folder in the offering plate at anytime during the month of December. Your generous support is appreciated!

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND LEADERS



Reminder to have your **annual reports** in by the end of the year to the church office. Email is the most efficient and preferred method of communication if possible. Everyone's support and help is greatly appreciated.

Member Directory

UPDATED MEMBER DIRECTORIES



Before writing out those Christmas cards, make sure you pick up the updated directory of Immanuel Members. Directories are located on the right of the bookshelf in the secretary's office labeled with a pink sign above them.

Forgot to pick one up on Sunday? Just call Vi and you can pick it up during the week between 9AM-1PM. Homebound members, just let Vi know, and we will send one out on your next visitation.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2:1-20

² In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

501 Chester Pike, Norwood, PA 19074

Phone: 610-586-5860

E-mail: Pastor: Immanuelnorwood@gmail.com

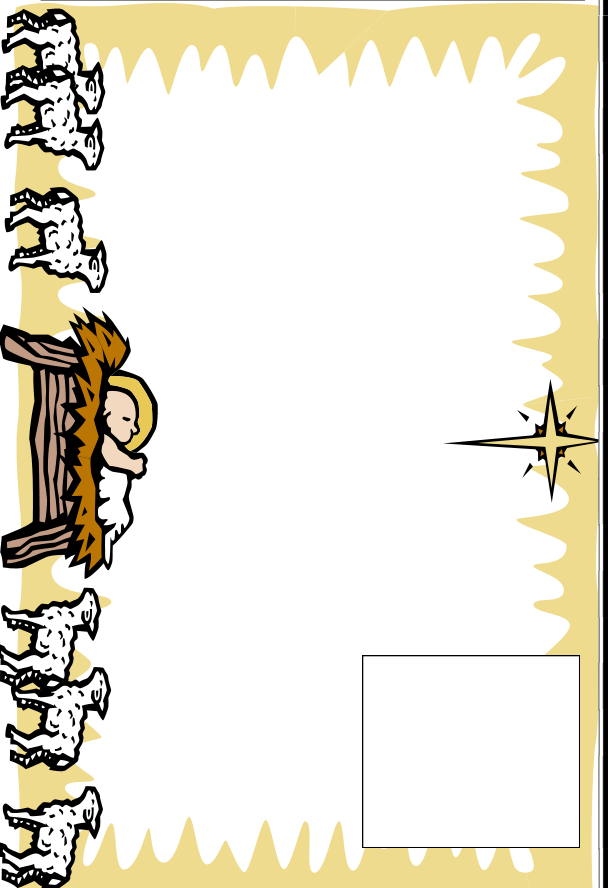
Secretary: Immanuel@verizon.net

The Rev. Scott R. Lee

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**TIME VALUE—DATED MATERIAL
Address Change Service (ACS)
Requested**



SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETINS

For Whom:

ALTAR FLOWERS

- In Honor of
- In Memory of
- In Celebration of

BULLETINS

- In Honor of
- In Memory of
- In Celebration of

DETAILS:

- ANNIVERSARY
- BIRTHDAY
- BAPTISM
- GRADUATION
- LOVED ONES
- OTHER

Prices and Ordering Information

Altar Flowers: \$35.00

Contact Fran Fisher (610.586.3095)

Bulletins: \$20.00

Contact the Church Office for available dates and dedication.

Name of Sponsor(s): How it will appear in Service Bulletin

Envelope No:

Phone