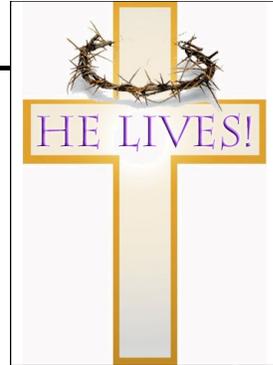


# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2024



## SHARE IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

- SUNDAY SERVICE AT 11:00 AM
- CHOIR
- SUNDAY SCHOOL
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- BIBLE STUDY
- ADULT EDUCATION HOUR
- SOCIAL MINISTRY
- OUTREACH
- HALF CENTURY GROUP

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
PASTOR'S MESSAGE	3-4
COMMITTEE NEWS	4-10
PARISH NOTES	11



# MARCH 2024

## SUNDAY WORSHIP - 11:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>The Calendar reflects “Church” events only.</b> For information in regard to “Use of Building” by outside groups, please contact Vi Mayberry or Fred Warner.</p>					1	2
<p><b>3 Lent 3</b>  <b>Order Flowers</b>                      12:00 PM                      Christian Ed Mtg                      Worship &amp; Music Mtg.</p>	4	5	<p>6                      7:00 PM - Lenten Service                      Holy Trinity, Wallingford</p> 	<p>7                      7:00 PM                      Bible Study                      Zoom</p>	8	<p>9                      Set Clocks                      ahead                      before bed!</p> 
<p><b>10 Lent 4</b>  <b>Order Flowers</b>                      12:30 PM                      Special Council Mtg.</p>	11	<p>12                      2:15 PM                      Resource Mtg</p>	<p>13                      7:00 PM - Lenten Service                      Immanuel, Norwood</p> 	<p>14                      7:00 PM                      Bible Study                      Zoom</p>	15	<p>16                      1:00 PM                      Healing                      Service</p> 
<p><b>17 Lent 5</b>                      12:00 PM                      Council Meeting</p> 	<p>18                      2:00-7:00 PM                      Blood Drive</p> 	19	<p>20                      12:00 PM                      Half Century Lunch                      7:00 PM - Lenten Service                      St. Timothy, Aston</p> 	<p>21                      7:00 PM                      Bible Study                      Zoom</p>	22	<p>23                      10:00 AM                      Clean up                      Day</p> 
<p><b>24 Palm Sunday</b></p> 	25	26	27	<p>28                      Maundy                      Thursday                      TBD</p> 	<p>29                      7:00 PM                      Good Friday                      Immanuel                      Lutheran</p> 	<p>30                      11:00 AM</p> 
<p><b>31 Easter</b>                      9:00 AM Breakfast</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Come help Immanuel get ready for Palm Sunday and Easter on <b>Church Clean-Up Day, Sat. March 23rd at 10:00am.</b> Let’s wash the remnants of a brutal winter away together and make way for a joyous Easter Celebration!!</p>					

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 3    MARCH 2024

## PASTOR'S PEN

"Wherever you go, there you are." Some of you may recognize this quote from the 1984 cult sci-fi classic, "The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai across the 8<sup>th</sup> Dimension". (It's obviously a truism, but it also suggests something more profound. Wherever you go, you cannot escape yourself. And, wherever you go, you cannot escape God. Spiritual growth and transformation happen when we embrace that truth and are willing to explore that intersection between God and the self.

We typically talk about Lent being a journey. We write "God bless your Lenten journey!" in church newsletters, and we sing "Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make." And it's true: there is movement in Lent. Jesus moves from the mountain on Transfiguration to the desert temptation, then into Jerusalem and onto the cross and (spoiler?) up from the grave. We hope that our Lenten journey will mirror Jesus' and help us conform our lives to Christ's life, death, resurrection.

But what if Lent isn't only about journey? What if Lent is also about stationary place? The scripture readings for Lent this year present a unique, sustained focus on location and place. Hebrew Bible texts speak of the Promised Land. The psalmist names God as shelter. Jesus asks us to pray in our rooms. Paul writes about standing firm. Events occur in real, historical places.

Of all the liturgical seasons, Lent is the one that best proclaims how no matter where you are, death included—God can find you. Any location—including wherever you are right now—can become a place for resurrection. For Christians, this belief is proclaimed most clearly through the cross, the place no one could ever believe God would end up, the place where Christ chooses death, the spot of Christ's—and our—new life." (*From the Introduction to "You are Here", © 2021 by Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission of Barn Geese Worship.*)

## CHURCH STAFF

- *Pastor,*  
*Rev. Scott R. Lee*
- *Secretary, Vi Mayberry*
- *Director of Music,*  
*Kathleen Schneider*

## CHURCH COUNCIL

- *Fran Fisher*
- *Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus*  
**President**
- *Colleen Kelly*
- *Joe Kintsche*  
**Vice President**
- *Karl McClellan*
- *Joyce Morrison*  
**Secretary**
- *Jeanne Warner*  
**Treasurer**
- *Don Watts*
- *Robin Woodrow*



Blessings to you this Lenten season, with its spiritual movement from captivity to freedom, darkness to light, death to life. Maybe all those movements are already happening within us and around us, right where we already are. As Dorothy said in another (and far better) classic film, "There's no place like home."

Blessings, Pastor Lee



**Lenten Service Schedule:** This year Immanuel - Norwood; St. Matthew - Woodlyn; Holy Trinity - Wallingford; St. Timothy - Aston; and Holy Spirit - Secane will be working together. This year's theme is "**Lenten Gatherings around our Baptism**".

**7:00 pm:** Worship with fellowship and snacks.

**Offerings:** Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County

Come as you are as we rediscover our baptismal promises. This year we have decided to try something new! Come and see!

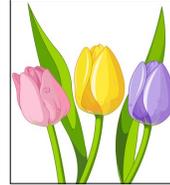
DATE	Location	Guest Pastor
Mar. 6th	Holy Trinity, Wallingford	Pr. Scott Lee
Mar. 13th	Immanuel, Norwood	Pr. Marie Sager
Mar. 20th	St. Timothy, Aston	Pr. Jenn Casey



## HOLY WEEK

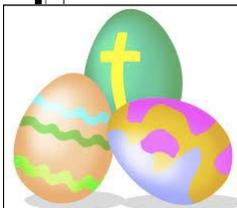
DATE	Location	TIME
Mar. 24th	<b>Palm Sunday</b> Immanuel Lutheran	Worship ~ 11:00 AM
Mar. 28th	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> To Be Determined	Worship ~ TBD
Mar. 29th	<b>Good Friday</b> Immanuel Lutheran	Worship ~ 7:00 PM
Mar. 31st	<b>Easter Sunday</b> Breakfast & Fellowship Immanuel Lutheran	9:00 AM Worship ~ 11:00 AM

**Easter Flowers** brighten the altar, contributing to our Easter celebration. This year we are ordering **Tulips and Hyacinths!** If you would like to place an order, please complete the holiday flower envelope, enclose your money, and place in the offering plate. Please include **type of plant, number of plants, payment, and dedication** for the bulletin in your envelope.



Orders are being taken thru March 10th. The cost **per plant is \$8.00 each.** For pick-up information after Easter, please contact the church office at 610.586.5860.

### **Immanuel Easter Egg Hunt** ~ Immanuel is holding an Easter Egg



Hunt on Saturday, March 30th, 2024. Children up to ten years of age are invited. Egg hunting begins promptly at 11:00 am, so **plan to arrive no later than 10:45.** Bring your own basket or bag for the eggs! The Egg Hunt happens rain or shine, as the hunt will be moved indoors in case of bad weather. Gather on the lawn at the Chester Pike entrance or go to the social hall down the stairs from the entrance. After the hunt, a light lunch will be served to the children.



**Join Us For  
Breakfast**

### **Bring your family and have breakfast with your Immanuel family!**

Easter Morning Breakfast  
Sunday March 31st, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Scrambled Eggs  
Linked Sausage  
Pancakes  
Fellowship

**Bring a dessert!!** See sign-up sheet in hospitality area. Please contact Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus with any questions.



## Lent is here with Easter just around the Corner!



The Lenten season is here! It is the time to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus going to the cross for us to pay for our sins. The darkness of Good Friday's suffering will be eclipsed by the Glory of Easter Morning's Resurrection! The generosity which the Father showed in giving up his Son for us is the ultimate gift anyone could receive. Let us continue in 2024 to show our generosity through what we give of our **Time, Talents and Treasure** to allow Immanuel's Mission to continue!

Speaking of generosity, in the past month we were blessed with a generous gift toward our PPP loan repayment essentially contributing enough to pay down **3+ months' worth of the loan early**. Thank you!!! Maybe there are others who would like to also make a special donation to help with this loan? FYI, our regular monthly payment is \$296.32.

### What Else Can You Do?

- ◆ Support all of our fund raisers especially the ongoing *Food Gift Coupons!*
- ◆ The Heating Oil Season is in full swing! Check out our Mascot, **SUPER MEER** from Vacation Bible School at the poster in the Hospitality area and while there please take an "OIL" envelope to contribute a little extra if you can.



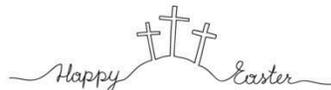
**Make Giving Easy and Automatic.** Here are **two ways** you can do that:

1. **Your Bank** - You can set up a monthly cashier's 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! For example Wells Fargo **will help you set this up at no cost to you!** Contact your bank and they can help you set it up.
2. **Tithely** - Consider using the safe, secure, easy virtual method with the QR code 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  
Jeanne Warner & Karl McClellan (Co-chairs), & Sandy Hendrick.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & COUNCIL UPDATE

Please welcome our new council members elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Jan. 28th  
They are:

**3 year term:**

Don Watts      Jeanne Warner      Colleen Kelly



The newly elected Executive Committee:

**President** - Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus      **Vice President** - Joseph Kintsche  
**Treasurer** - Jeanne Warner      **Secretary** - Joyce Morrison

**Thank You** to our Council Members for their commitment and years of service to the church and the congregation:

**Fred Warner** 2019-2024      **Jean Crane** 2019-2024



As we travel through this Lent Season; let us all remember our prayer life, Bible Study and our church through service. God so loved the world that he gave His only Son to the world. Jesus died to pay the price of our sins.

**HELP YOUR CHURCH WHILE YOU EAT!!**

WE SELL ACME/SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS!!!



AVAILABLE IN \$10 - \$100 DENOMINATIONS!!

FOR EVERY GIFT CARD WE SELL WE GET 5%!!

**IT REALLY ADDS UP!!**



Please contact Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus to purchase gift cards either at church on Sunday, or by calling her at 610-888-2579. Cash or checks are welcome!

### Sharing Our Stories Continues! Here is the first for 2024!

Jesus loved to tell stories. Sharing our stories of faith is an expectation of God. How have you noticed God at work in your life, in small or big ways? In 2023 with Pastor's support, we started the process to share our stories as a way to share our faith. As he expressed in the annual report we certainly want to continue that effort!

Here is the latest in our congregation's stories. It's been wonderful to learn about the presence of God in the lives of some of our members. We have read or heard a variety of stories from our fellow members. Do you have a story to share? Any little anecdote about your personal experience that has reminded you that God is present in your life and/or the life of the Immanuel Community. Contact Pastor Lee, Karl McClellan, or Joyce Morrison to share your story with the congregation. You can write it out, prepare video (we will help you) or share it during announcements at a worship service. It will be posted on our website for more folks to see.



#### Jeanne's Story

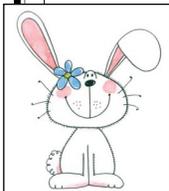
Hi! I'm Jeanne Warner, a longtime member of Immanuel in Norwood, I have a story about how I saw prayer and God at work in my life.

I had a job that was causing me a lot of stress. But it was hard to think about starting another job at the age of 60. One day, I was in the church office with our church's secretary, Vi, and she gave me an announcement for a job opening as a Secretary at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church. I kind of put it aside at first and then thought – what the heck – go for it. I applied for the position, had an interview and prayed. I really felt in my heart that this was what God was leading me to do. Timing was perfect (as you may have heard it said things happen in “God's time”). This felt so right. Now all I needed was for Holy Spirit Lutheran to realize that also. It was a couple weeks, but I finally got the call from Pastor Cheryl that they were offering me the job! I was so excited to start on a new venture (though I was still apprehensive) but I knew also that I would gain a new church family in addition to my Immanuel church family which gave me comfort. And I did! After a while into my job, I then realized it wasn't just about what I needed, but I think they needed me also. You never know where life is going to take you at any age, but with God's guidance, I knew I was going in the right direction.

My key learning to share with you is that in times of stress and decisions to make, remember God is always there and willing to listen. Take the time to pray. Just remember to be patient as the guidance will come in God's time, not necessarily in our time. At Immanuel, we have an active prayer list which is shared each week during our service and also published in our newsletter. Names can be added at any time by talking to the Pastor, one of the worship assistants or contacting the church office. If you find yourself in need of prayer we'd be happy to include you too!

## Happy Easter from Social Ministry!

Homemade Irish Breads and Irish Potato Candies are back again this year! Mary Lyn graciously offered to bake them again. Thank you Mary Lyn and thank you to all that order! **Last day to order is March 3rd!**



Homemade Easter candy will again be for sale with the generous help of the ladies of Immanuel. Their time and hard work is greatly appreciated. If you would like to join in the candy making fun, we meet Tuesdays at 6:00PM in the downstairs kitchen area. A lot of love, fun and time goes into making our delicious candy, so pick up an order form and fill up those Easter baskets. Thank you to all! **Deadline for candy orders is March 10th.** Pick up is Palm Sunday March 24th.

Look for the Easter candy order form on the table at the back of the church. These sales are a way to financially support Immanuel. God Bless and stay healthy.

## American Red Cross Blood Donation Drive

has been scheduled for Monday, March 18th, 2024 from 2:00PM – 7:00 PM. The event will be held in the Social Room. Please register online at: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), by calling them at 1-800-RED-CROSS, or by speaking with Colleen Kelly. Blood donations are always needed and have been down in recent years. Hope to see you at our blood drive. If you are not able to donate blood, please share this information with family and friends and encourage them to donate.



## Come Join Immanuel's Weekly Virtual Bible Study Thursday Evenings at 7PM

Our "ZOOM" Bible study on Thursday evenings continues! This provides **one of two** Bible study options at Immanuel with the other being **In Person** on Sunday mornings at 10AM. You are welcome to join either or both as we cover different topics. The Thursday night Virtual Bible study uses selections from the "Life Guide" bible study series. All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we "connect". Sessions are led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. 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!** Please join us if you can! Just go to our web site, [www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org), and click on the "Church Calendar" tab then scroll to the **ZOOM LINK FOR THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**. There are instructions there for how to use the "Dial In" option as well!





You may remember when I first arrived that I talked about living the mission. Early on we had “**Living the Mission Sunday**”, which was an opportunity to lift up the various ministries that happen here at Immanuel. This would be an opportunity for members to explore the different committees and their activities. The goal is to increase our awareness of the ministry possibilities.

During Living the Mission Sunday, members of each committee have a little presentation to highlight the committee activities throughout the year. It is also a time for food and fellowship. There will be light snacks to eat as you talk to different members about their involvement in the life of Immanuel. This is also an excellent time for our new comers to get to know us better. Please join us in the hospitality room after worship on **Sunday, April 14th**. We hope to see you there!

**Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group in March!** Pack a lunch and join us on the 3rd Wednesday of March, the 19th, at noon for good company, conversation and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

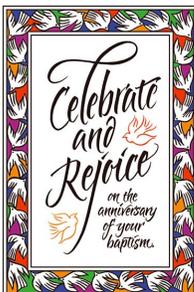


### Cars, Coffee and Christ returns for 2024!

In 2022, we started this Outreach event by teaming up with St Matthew, Woodlyn. It is a monthly gathering for “Cars, Coffee & Christ” that gives us a chance for fellowship, sharing stories, raising prayer concerns, enjoying snacks and giving back to the community. We aim for once a month from April through the Fall (weather permitting) in St Matthew’s parking lot. We are planning our first for 2024 on **Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30 to 10:30 am. We hope you might come out and join us!! Please see Karl McClellan ([krmcfamily@aol.com](mailto:krmcfamily@aol.com)) with any suggestions/questions you may have.

**Graduations?** Anyone graduating from High School, College or Graduate School? Immanuel would like to know about it. Notify the church office at 610.586.5860 or email us at [secretary.immanuel@verizon.net](mailto:secretary.immanuel@verizon.net) to send us the details.





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

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| † Florence Grantland | † Ryan Firkser  |
| † Ingeborg Grieb     | † David Firkser |
| † Joan Paglia        | † Amy Graham    |
| † Stephan Firkser    | † Thomas Neher  |

THE POWER OF PRAYER

- |                  |                 |  |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| ♥ Barb Calciano  | ♥ Fred Dormann  | ♥ People battling cancer & their families. |
| ♥ Pat Bonner     | ♥ Dave Maiden   | ♥ Peace around the world.                  |
| ♥ Marie Parnell  | ♥ Baby Wynona   |  |
| ♥ Art Hunter     | ♥ Louis Farrell |  |
| ♥ Cheryl Woodrow | ♥ Lewis Onimus  |  |
| ♥ Bob Moore      |                 |  |



CONGREGATION STATISTICS

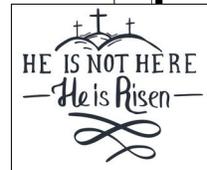
	Removed	Added	Avg. Weekly	Avg. YTD
JAN.	0	0	27	27

**The Resurrection of Jesus Christ**

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!"

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.

Then the other disciple also went in, and he saw and believed ~ John 20:1-8



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

501 Chester Pike, Norwood, PA 19074

Phone: 610-586-5860

E-mail: Pastor: pastor.immanuel@yahoo.com

Secretary: immanuel@verizon.net

The Rev. Scott R. Lee, Pastor

www.immanuelnorwood.org

Church Office Hours

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



We are a  
**RECONCILING in CHRIST**  
Congregation

**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:** \$30.00

Contact Fran Fisher (610.586.3095)

**Bulletins:**

\$20.00

Contact the Church Office for available dates.

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

Envelope No:

Phone