



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

April 2025

Pastor's Pen

Lent emerged shortly following the Council of Nicea in 325 AD. Council records suggest that the fast applied at first mainly to new converts as a period of repentance and reflection before baptism at Easter. Lent is a time in the Christian calendar which moves us from the light of Epiphany to the darkness of introspection focusing on: Temptation: Consider how Christ spent 40 days in the wilderness fasting and praying before beginning his public ministry.

- Prayer: Consider how prayer reconnects us to God.
- Fasting: Consider how fasting reminds of us of God's presence.
- Almsgiving: Consider how almsgiving is reminder of God's generosity.
- Repentance: Consider how repentance is a theme of Lent.
- Contemplation: Consider how contemplation helps to renew our mind toward God.
- Relationship with God: Consider how themes of Lent relate to our relationship with God, such as lamenting, waiting, humility, and forgiveness. Lent is also a time of action to strengthen our spiritual bond to God, ourselves and the whole of creation. Most people wait until they are certain before they act. But you will never be certain of anything until you act.

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

ASK YOURSELF:

What are you waiting around for certainty before acting?

Is that certainty ever realistically going to come without doing anything to find out?

Take action this month on something without being certain of the result. Let me know what you learn.

Pastor Lee



Lenten Worship

Lenten Dinner Church Wednesday Evenings at 5:30 pm We share worship with other Delaware County Lutheran Churches. All are welcome to any or all these joint worship services. We will experience Dinner Church. The service will incorporate 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*.

Date	Location	Speaker
4/2	St. Matthew, 156 Fairview Rd, Woodlyn	Pr. McNamara
4/9	St. John, 1500 Glen Ave, Folcroft	Pr. McNamara

Remembering our Baptisms

April

Debra Rodgers

Benjamin Graham

Colleen Strahlau

Steven Russell

Matthew Graham

Susan Hornberger

Pride Flag Update



As you go past the church you may have noticed that our Pride flag is not flying at the corner of Winona Ave and Chester Pike. This is because we had an issue with the mounting bracket due to the high winds that we saw in February. We will be reworking the mounting and get it back up once the weather breaks. If you have any questions, please see Karl McClellan.



**NO HEALING SERVICE DUE TO
EASTER WEEKEND!**

Easter Candy Making/Sale

It's that time again! Come and join for the delicious smell. and stay to help make the candy that all love! Each Tuesday until Palm Sunday in the kitchen at 6pm.

Forms for ordering handmade candy will be available by March 20 and orders are due by April 6. Candy will be available on April 13.



Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group ~ Pack lunch and join us Thursday, March 20th at noon downstairs at church for good company, conversation and fellowship. Hope to see you in the basement hospitality area! Please enter through the Chester Pike entry.



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 coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.



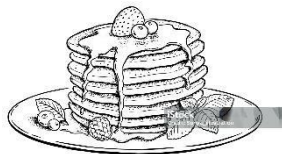
PRE EASTER CLEAN UP DAY

Clean up day at Church will be held on Saturday, April 12th from 9AM – 12:00PM. Avoiding your own spring cleaning? Come help at Immanuel with others and accomplish some for your community! Contact Fred Warner for details.



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.

Easter Morning Breakfast **Sunday April 20, 2025 at 9:30 AM** Bring your family and have breakfast with your Immanuel family!



Scrambled Eggs
Pancakes

Linked Sausage
Fellowship

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

Sharing Our Stories Continues Here is the first for



2025!



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 said 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 people to see.

WHAT'S
YOUR STORY?



Karl's Story of where I've seen GOD at Work in My Life. March 10, 2025

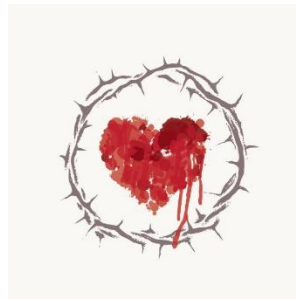
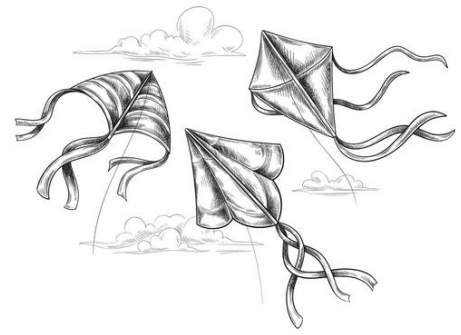
My name is Karl McClellan and I'm a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Norwood, Pa. I'd like to share a story of where I've seen God at work in my life. My best friend passed away last year after a long illness. We met in college, we were each other's best man when we married, shared similar hobbies, we were Godfathers to each other's first born and for nearly 45 years absolutely the best of friends. He came down with a terminal disease and in the last stages he was placed in hospice at his home. I visited often though it was some of the hardest times I ever had to spend seeing him withering away. I did all I could to be there for my best friend and his family. As the end was nearing and his condition worsened, we were all praying for the Lord to take him home and to give us strength to somehow get through and be there for him...and each other. Thankfully, we all knew he had strong faith and that he knew eventually his Lord would take him home.

One day leaving his house while driving, a song came on the radio by Carrie Underwood that I believe was sent in that moment by God to comfort me and help us through this. The song is called "Our Temporary Home" and the last verse goes something like this "Old man.... hospital bedthe room is filled with people he loves, and he whispers "don't cry for me I'll see you all someday.... he looks up and says..... I can see God's face" This is my temporary home, it's not where I belong, windows in rooms that I'm passing through..... this was just a stop, on the way to where I'm going..... I'm not afraid because I know..... this was my temporary home."

I had to pull over as I listened to this and wept. I shared that story with his wife later that same day and somehow, knowing that he was at peace and ready to go see his maker, made the final weeks something we could all get through. I believe this is an example of God being there in our lives to help us through some of our darkest times. Knowing that my best friend is with his Lord looking down on us...and that someday we will all be together again..... gives me peace.



I have been blessed to be part of Immanuel's family my whole life. One of the key things that I have learned over that time is the importance and the power of prayer. This experience with my best friend's passing was a powerful reminder of how important it is that we do pray and establish a relationship with our Lord. In his time and in his way, I do believe that answers to our prayers do come. Thank you for allowing me to share my story. We'd love to have you come join us at Immanuel, and see how God is at work, in all our lives



Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services April 17th 18th

Maundy Thursday will be held at 7:00pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross will be held at noon at Ridley Lake, use the entrance closest to the parking lot.



Vacation Bible School Planning Sunday April 13th at 12:00
We need your input and help! See/contact Jeanne Warner for further details.

Weekly Virtual Bible Study moves to Monday Evenings!

Weekly “Virtual” Bible Study: In Lent on Monday. Our Virtual (“Zoom”) Bible study rolls on during Lent but to avoid a conflict with our Mid-Week Lenten services, we shifted to Mondays 7:00 to 8:00, through April 7th. We will return to Wednesdays after Holy Week on April 23 rd. 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 sessions. We are using material from Right Now Media and are currently doing a series on “Easter” which you can join at any time! Just go to our web site, 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 after Holy Week when we return to Wednesdays on April 23rd. There will be a hard copy of that information as well on the table as you enter the Hospitality area. We hope you will join us!!

<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 the number.

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

Meeting ID: 810 2076 0512 Passcode:873552

Any questions please see Karl McClellan or Fred Warner



April.....Easter and the Resurrection this month !

WOW, it is hard to believe we are already in the fourth month of 2025! The greatest sign of God's love and generosity for all mankind happens this month as we remember his Son going to the cross on Good Friday, dying for our sins and then three days later being raised from the dead! What an indescribable gift we have been given. Considering all that we have comes from the Lord, and that through His grace we were all forgiven, it should make us pause and reflect on our generosity to our church. Our sincere Thanks to all of you who give of your Time, Talents and Treasures!!

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

- Follow through with your 2025 Stewardship commitment.
- 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 **Food Gift Coupons!** (We ALL Eat right? Help our church at the same time!)
- 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" is done, that would be wonderful!

Make giving easy and automatic!

- Consider this. There are **two ways** you can do this:
 - #1. **Your Bank** >>>>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 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.



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.



Though the weather is getting warmer (Hurray!) our oil budget payments do continue.

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

Gay Kuhn



Comfort to those enduring hardships.

People and their families battling cancer

Comfort to those enduring hardships

Peace around the world



Did You See the Tree that fell in front of the Church?

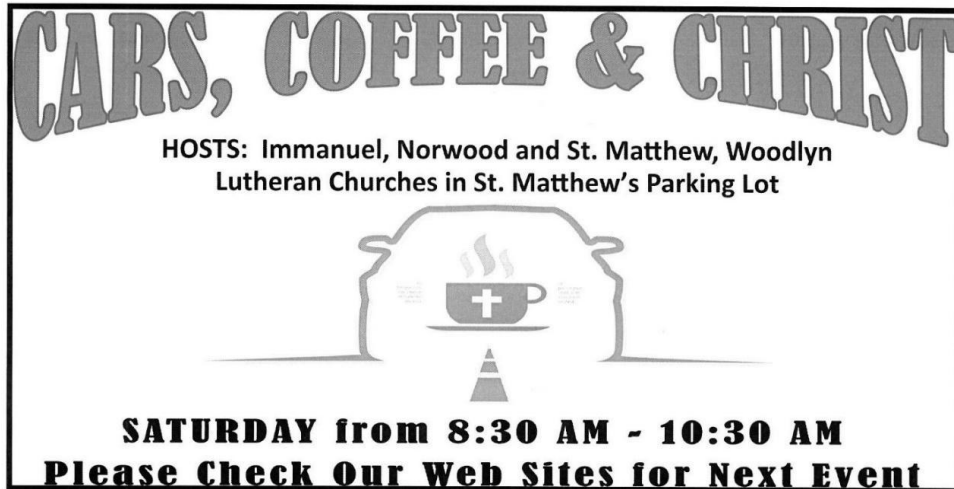
We had our yew tree on the parking lot side of the front door, fall during the March windstorms. A big thank you to our Property Committee for working with “Jakes” tree service to remove it. This unexpected cost was \$1000. If you would like to help with this just place your donation in an envelope and mark it “For the Tree”. **Thanks again for all you do!**

Easter Egg Hunt

This year’s Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 19th at 11:00AM on the front lawn. Please bring your little ones for a truly memorable time!



Easter Plants will be on sale for the month of March. All orders must be placed by April 6th. Flowers will be hyacinths and tulips for \$8.00 each. There are envelopes in which you may place your order in the hospitality area. Please place your orders in the offering plate or give them directly to Jean Crane.



GPS: 160 Fairview Road, Woodlyn, Pa. 19094

For more information - Karl McClellan
 krmcfamily@aol.com
 610-761-4804



www.immanuelnorwood.org
www.stmatthewlutheranwoodlyn.org

Cars, Coffee and Christ returns for 2025!!

In 2022, a joint Outreach event by both Immanuel Norwood and St. Matthew Woodlyn began. “**Cars, Coffee & Christ**” gives us a chance for fellowship, sharing stories, raising prayer concerns, enjoying snacks and giving back to the community. The goal is to have one every-other month from April through the Fall (weather permitting) in St Matthew’s parking lot. As of this newsletter the plan for our first in 2025 is **Saturday May 10th from 8:30 to 10:30 am**. We hope to have you join us!! All are welcome! A variety of antique, classic, and modern cars & trucks will be displayed. The owners and enthusiasts love to chat! So please come to share fellowship (and good snacks)! See Karl McClellan (krmcfamily@aol.com) with any suggestions/questions you may have.

Work Breakfast!

Join us , Saturday, May 17th from 8:30 – 10:30 AM in the hospitality basement for a meal and fellowship followed by a time work on various projects around the church. All ages are welcome! Please contact Pastor Lee for further questions.

Photo Corner



Grateful for our servers!

**Pastor Marie @
Wednesday Dinner Church!**

Everyone Enjoying Dinner Church Together!



Sponsor Bulletins and/or Newsletters: Call Patty Clerico, Secretary, at the church office. Let her know the dedication and when you would like to sponsor. The cost is \$20 for each publication.

Easter Egg Hunt 2024



Come and Play in 2025!



April Events at Immanuel

Wednesday – April 2

9:00 am Live Bible Study @ St. Matt

5:30 pm Dinner Church @ St. Matt

Sunday – April 6

9:15 Choir

10:00 Education Hour

11:00 Worship

12:00 Worship & Music Comm.

Christian Education

Monday – April 7

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

Tuesday –April 8

2:15PM Resource Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 9

9:00 AM Bible Study @ St. Matt
5:30 PM Dinner Church @ St. John

Saturday---April 12

9:00 – 12:00PM Cleanup day

PALM Sunday – April 13

9:15 Choir
10:00 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
12:00 VBS Meeting

Monday – April 14

7:00 Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday – April 16

9:00 am Live Bible Study at St. Matt

Thursday – April17

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday
Friday – April 18

12:00PM Stations of the Cross at Ridley Lake near the parking lot

Saturday – April 19

11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt
NO HEALING SERVICE

EASTER Sunday – April 20

9:30 Easter Breakfast
11:00 Worship

April 23 – Wednesday

9:00 AM Bible Study @ St. Matt
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

Sunday--- April 27

9:00 Outreach
10:00 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
12:00 Council Meeting

Wednesday --April 30

9:00 AM Bible Study @ St. Matt
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

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