

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

February 2026

Pastor's Pen

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season that invites us to slow down and tell the truth about who we are and whose we are. As ashes are placed on our foreheads, we hear the ancient words: *“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”* These words are not meant to shame us, but to ground us in humility and honesty before God. They remind us that life is fragile, time is precious, and grace is essential.

Lent is often described as a season of repentance, but repentance is more than feeling sorry—it is a turning. A turning back toward God when we have wandered, a turning toward our neighbor when we have been self-focused, and a turning inward to face the places in our lives that need healing. Through prayer, worship, fasting, generosity, and acts of love, Lent creates space for God to work in us, not by our effort alone, but by God’s mercy.

This Lenten journey leads us to the cross and ultimately to the empty tomb. Along the way, we walk with Jesus through wilderness and suffering, trusting that God is still at work bringing life out of death. May this season be a time of honest reflection, deepened faith, and renewed hope as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

Pastor Lee

Pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com



Church Staff

Rev. Scott R. Lee *Pastor*
Kathleen Schneider
Director of Music
Patricia Clerico
Secretary

Church Council

Jean Crane
Fran Fisher
Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus
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

The Little Food Pantry

It's winter – and everyone needs a little extra food to keep warm. Please provide some hearty nonperishables 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. **In the current cold temperatures please remember NOT TO BRING ANY GLASS CONTAINERS.** 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>



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

Remembering Our Baptisms



Frederick Warner, Sr.
Patricia Barker
Alexis Paglia

Carol Hendrikson
Caddie Campbell
Jane McGuire

Donald Watts

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
Frank Otto
Baby Caden
Joan Truman
Kathleen Cirucci
Chris Baker
Alfino

Crystal Gaglione
Gina & Jamie Monteleone



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

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.

Severe Weather Policy

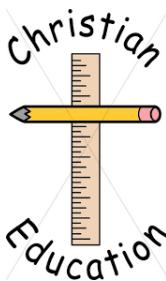
In the event of severe winter weather please call the church office at **610.586.5860** for a recorded announcement regarding the status of Sunday morning services. Closing announcements will be made no later than 6:30AM to ensure ample time for travel planning.



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.



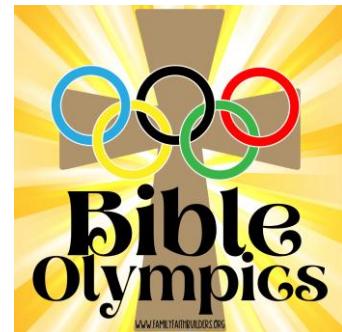
The Christian Ed program has been busy! There are opportunities to join Adult Sunday School, Zoom Bible Study, and In Person Bible Study as well as for your children to attend Children's Sunday School.



This year the children will be focusing on



The next Intergenerational event will be on February 22nd at 10:45am
Don't miss the BIBLE OLYMPICS!



During 2025, Pastor Lee became aware that we need to have emergency contact information for our church members. We also need to update our mailing list records. Help us to help keep you informed about Immanuel's activities and to reach your preferred contact.

Please make sure you have taken time to review your contact information and update any changes as well as include your emergency contact. There is an information form for each member family to complete - we handed them out at the Annual Meeting. Please be sure you complete a form and leave it for the church office. On the form please indicate which information should be printed for your entry in the church directory



ASH WEDNESDAY: 7:00AM - 9:00AM Drive through at White Luttrell Funeral Home in Ridley Park.

All Wednesday evening services take place at 6:00pm at each location .
Watch the bulletins for more information!

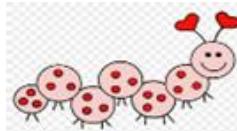
February 25	Immanuel Lutheran
March 4	St. Matthew's Woodlyn
March 11	St. Timothy's Aston
March 18	St. John's
March 25	Holy Spirit Secane



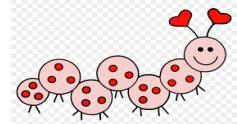
April 2nd	Maundy Thursday	7pm St. Matthew's Woodlyn
April 3rd	Good Friday	12 noon Ridley Lake



Yes! The preparations are underway for the Easter Cantata!
Practices will begin on **February 22nd** at **9:15AM** in the choir room!



February is the “LOVE” Month!



With the 2nd month of 2026 comes Valentines Day which reminds us of God’s love for us! God showed his love through sending us his Son! We need to remember that **everything we have** comes from God. Lent also starts this month and that is our yearly journey of 40 days to experience the sacrifice Jesus made to save us from sin. Let us show our gratitude for his sacrifice through what we do with our **time, talents and treasure**.

So How Can We Show Our Gratitude....?

- If you did not already do it, then ***please be sure to take the time to prayerfully consider and respond*** to the Outreach Committee’s Stewardship Campaign.....and then fulfill your pledge this year.
- Support all our fund raisers, especially the ongoing **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 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.



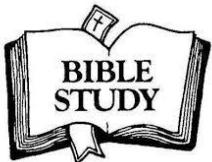
Looking forward in 2026.....

- ❖ The Property Committee is leading the effort to get a plan to repair our Air Conditioning system. We'll share the full plan that once it is figured out. If you would like to contribute toward this, please put your donation in an envelope, just write **AC** + your envelope number on the outside and place it in the offering plate.
- ❖ We are in the peak of the 2026 Heating Oil season. Our cost is \$1300./month plus the Maintenance contract. Our VBS mascot **Scout** is heading up our heating oil campaign board...stop by...say hello...and if you can, take an envelope to help with this cost.
- ❖ All our committees plan to have a month to share with you what we do. For Resource (we used to be called the Finance Committee), we: take care of the business side of our church, receive income, pay the bills, monitor our "BIG Spends" looking for ways to reduce costs for things like Insurance and Utilities, develop the annual budget, conduct a yearly audit, coordinate with our tellers who count the offering and with all other committees who raise or spend money. We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday. If you have questions or would like to consider being on our committee, please see us!



Sincerely, Your Resource Committee: Karl McClellan & Jeanne Warner

Weekly Bible Study at St. Matt's



**9:00 am in person Bible Study on Wednesdays at
St. Matthew's Woodlyn will resume meeting on **Wednesday,
1/21/26**.**

Save TAX DOLLARS and; Contribute to your Church with a “QCD”!

How? Make a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) With a QCD, the distributions are tax-free if they are paid directly from the IRA to an eligible charitable organization, thereby preserving more of your principle!

To be eligible you must: ☐ Be at least 70 ½ years old.

Have an IRA that contains “qualified funds” which means they were not taxed when the contributions to the IRA were made.

Make the donation to the church directly by the IRA’s trustee and not by the IRA’s owner.

Another nice feature for those who are at least 73 years old, QCDs count toward the IRA owner and 39;s required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

Want more information? Contact your investment advisor or your IRA’s trustee. An added resource if you choose to consider this, is our church’s Financial Advisor, Justin Creighton who is with Kuttin Wealth Management, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial. Justin is willing to do his best to provide information. He can be reached via email at: Justin.Creighton@ampf.com

The Resource Committee wanted you to be aware of a “QCD” for your consideration.

Thank you, Karl McClellan



On Sunday, February 8th, we will celebrate the Super Bowl by collecting soups for our Little Free Pantry. Please bring a can or two with you when you come to worship on Super Bowl Sunday! Place your soup in the front of the church. There will be a box for each team- and your donation will be your vote. We’ll figure out who wins our “Souper Bowl”!

Tindall Family visits Immanuel to see the Mural and Trace their Family Tree

In early December, I received a call from Suzanne Tindall Crump, a distant relative of Miriam Tindall who painted the mural that graces the rear wall in our sanctuary. Her family has been working on tracing their family tree, was aware of the mural, some of the history of the original artist and asked if they could possibly come to visit during the Christmas holiday as several members of their family from out of state would be in the area. I set up a visit and provided them with several documents from our 80th celebration of the mural, which we held back in 2019.

Six members of their family came on December 26th (in the picture, from left to right are: Sitka Crump (from Los Angles, Al & Suzanne Crump from Reading, Gage and Anza Crump also from Los Angles). They had a chance to see the mural, gather some more family history and enjoy some time in our church! For those who may not know, here is a little bit of the history of our mural:

- Painted by Miriam Tindall Smith (1901-1984), who was born in Norwood, in memory of her mother, Jennie Minerva Tindall over a period of 2 years.
- Miriam Tindall Smith was a renowned artist, member of the Philadelphia Art Alliance who had major works exhibited in Art Institute of Chicago, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the 1939 New York's World Fair to name a few.

Suzanne and I are going to stay in touch to share whatever else they learn about the artist and to see if we can confirm that Miriam and her mother were officially members of Immanuel back in the 1930's.



I encourage you to take a moment to look up and enjoy, once again this beautiful mural.

Thank you, Karl McClellan



Weekly Virtual Bible Study on Wednesdays!

Our Virtual (“Zoom”) Bible study is back on Wednesdays**; 7:00 to 8:00 PM after our Christmas break **until we reach Lent then we will switch nights** (*We'll let you know which night**- we are still deciding as of the newsletter deadline*). We will be using another 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.

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. Here is the ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89778279740?pwd=kDC4ionJbzgZ6PLWDRCAvyiSaYtpl2.1>

You can also 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.

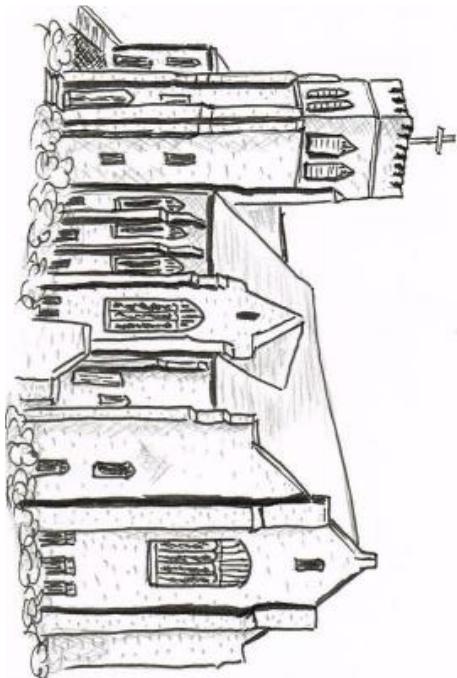
Dial In Numbers: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 897 7827 9740 Passcode: 952485

Any questions please see Karl McClellan or Fred Warner

February Events at Immanuel

Sunday February 1	12:00 Council Meeting
9:45 Christian Ed Committee	
10:00 Education Hour	
11:00 Worship	
12:00 Music and Worship Meeting	
Wednesday February 3	
9:00 Bible Study in person @St. Matts	
7:00PM Zoom Bible Study	
Sunday February 8	
SOUPER SUNDAY	
10:00 Education Hour	
11:00 Worship	
12:00 Outreach Meeting	
Tuesday February 10	
2:15pm Resource Meeting	
Wednesday 14	
7:00PM Zoom Bible Study	
9:00 Bible Study in person @St. Matts	
Sunday February 15	
10:00 Education Hour	
11:00 Worship	
	Wednesday February 18
	ASH WEDNESDAY
	7:00AM – 9:00AM
	Drive thru at White Luttrell Funeral Home
	Thursday February 19
	12:00PM Half Century Lunch
	Saturday February 21
	1:00PM Healing Service
	Sunday February 22
	9:00AM Choir Cantata Practice
	10:00 Education Hour
	10:45 Bible Olympics
	11:00 Worship
	Wednesday February 25
	6:00PM Midweek Lenten Service @Immanuel



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