

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020

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FAITHFELLOWSHIP***FUN***



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Grace & Peace from the Pastor's Desk

It's already November...

our thoughts turn to the beginning of the holiday season... Our American history tells us that the original Thanksgiving celebrations were because the first persons to settle in the colonies had survived an especially harsh winter with an abundant harvest the next fall. Most stories of Thanksgiving history start with the harvest celebration of the pilgrims and the Native Americans that took place in the autumn of 1621.....The Pilgrims set ground at Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620. Their first winter was devastating. At the beginning of the following fall, they had lost 46 of the original 102 who sailed on the Mayflower. But the harvest of 1621 was a bountiful one. And the remaining

colonists decided to celebrate with a feast – including 91 natives who had helped the Pilgrims survive their first year. It is believed that the Pilgrims would not have made it through the year without the help of the natives. The feast was more of a traditional English harvest festival than a true “thanksgiving” observance. It lasted three days. (Wilstar.com)

Fast forward to pre-civil war days... According to my American History teacher... the holidays were celebrated by families who would close up their plantations and travel from their homes to stay with other family members for a very extended visit... sometimes from the week before Thanksgiving until after New Year’s Day. It was a time of festivities, rejuvenation, and relaxation because, being an agrarian based society, the fields were clear and there was very little that needed their attention at home.

In today’s society very few of us consider the Thanksgiving feast to be something more than a turkey dinner with all the fixings, set up one time, surrounded perhaps by family and close friends. We do, in most cases, consider it a time for giving thanks to God for the blessings we have received throughout the year.

The common denominator in all this is that there is an abundance of food. This year may not be any different for you. However, there are people throughout the world, in our own neighborhoods and across the oceans, who do not take food for granted. Because we believe in a God of abundance, we have the resources necessary to reach out in ways that can impact the work of the ELCA to end hunger and poverty. ELCA World Hunger is anticipating a reduction in donations due to the pandemic, and have sent an appeal for our help. There is an envelope included with this newsletter. If you believe God is calling you to share your monetary resources, please use this envelope to place your money in the offering plate. If you receive this newsletter electronically you are more than welcome to use one of your own envelopes and mark it “ELCA World Hunger” and place it in the offering plate.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.” Luke 6:32-36

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have anything you’d like to discuss. I’m in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 am until 2 pm. (Except for the week of elections – I will not be in the office on Tuesday, but will be in the office on Wednesday that week.) You can call 833-7062 during that time, or just drop in. You may also call my cell phone (724-557-2386) and leave a message. I will return your call.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Karen

Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES



Sunday School will be starting **November 8, 2020**. We will be meeting at 10:30 following our 9:30 worship service. I am so excited to see all of you and get started! We will be meeting in the large classroom downstairs in the Social Hall. Janice Kreger is providing juice and donut holes! Don't forget your mask! **November 22nd** we will be putting up the Mitten Trees - they will again be in the Narthex and Lounge. Donations go to Trinity/ Bethesda, here in Erie and to Bethesda's main campus in Meadville. On **November 29th** Sunday School offering will be going to Community Shelter Services.



Anita

All Saint's Sunday

November 1,
2020



The sheaf of wheat is a Christian symbol that death is not an end, but the beginning of life eternal. The mature grain in the sheaf represents the promise of Jesus Christ our Lord.

We remember, with a white candle, those of our congregation who have gone on before us this year.

George C. Pfeiffer, IV – December 18, 2019

Pearl M. Young – May 25, 2020

We also remember with the tolling of the bell, friends of our congregation who have gone on before us.

Everett Ellison
Kay Ellison
Robert Heberle
Patricia Roth
Wilbur Schuldt
Nancy Solberg

The men, women, and children who have died because of hate crimes and violence in cities and towns across America and around the world.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Instructions for Indoor Worship during COVID-19

- October 25, Reformation Sunday - first day for indoor worship. We will continue to have **one service** at 9:30 am.
- Do not attend worship if you are feeling ill.
- The service will also continue to be broadcast on the radio, we will continue using FM station 93.7 until further notice. Those attending the drive-in service, we ask you to park in the West 10th Street lot rather than the main lot. An usher will bring you a bulletin, if needed and your pre-packaged Holy Communion.
- Limited seating will be available in the nursery which has a speaker. You may also bring your own radio and tune into the broadcast in a classroom. See an Usher for access. Windows and doors will be open during the worship service to allow proper ventilation and air flow in the sanctuary.
- A mask or a face shield is to be worn in the church building; other than the brief time it may be pulled down to take Communion. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided.
- Enter the Sanctuary through the side Narthex door located on Powell Ave., all other entrances will be locked. The disability accessible entrance will be available as needed.
- Bulletins will continue to be emailed for use with your electronic device or self-printing. A limited supply will be available in the Narthex. Offering plates which will be located in the Narthex and front of the Sanctuary.
- Walk directly to a seat that has a sign-in sheet placed upon it. You may not be able to sit in your “normal” seat. For your protection and the protection of other worshipers, do not sit in any seat without a sign-in sheet, the seats have been properly physically distanced. Do not change seats once you have sat down. Families may sit together, but do not sit within 6 feet of a person with whom you have not recently been in physical contact.
- Complete the sign-in sheet so we have record and contact tracing of who attended worship. Please do not expect the usher to “just know” you were there. Leave it on your seat to be collected after the service.
- There will be no singing indoors. We will speak the first verse of the hymn which will be included in the bulletin. The Psalm will be responsively spoken in unison.
- Holy Communion:
 - One side of the church will be served at a time. Come forward by the center aisle to receive Holy Communion, social distancing 6 feet from any person who is not a member of your household.
 - Communion cups will be prefilled with wine. Pick up a cup without touching any other cups in the holder, then proceed to the pastor to receive the Host. Do not kneel at the Communion rail. After receiving the Host move to the far end of the Communion rail to consume the elements, throwing your cup in the provided recycle bin.
 - Return to your seat using the side aisle.
- After the service you will be individually dismissed. You may leave by any exit. Please do not congregate for conversations in the building.

The re-entry sub-committee thanks you for following these instructions that were carefully crafted so that you and others may safely worship in the sanctuary.

NOTE: Additional overflow Drive-In parking can be accessed in the doctor’s office lot on W. 10th St. – this will enable the parking lot ushers to easily share bulletins and communion & record attendance.



NOVEMBER 2020 Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lector
11/1/20 ALL SAINTS 9:30	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
11/08/20 9:30	Kostur	Stan Holsopple	Stan Holsopple
11/15/20 9:30	Kostur	Cindy Geddes	Cindy Geddes
11/22/20 CHRIST THE KING 9:30	Kostur	Bob Dorler	Bob Dorler
11/29/20 1 ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30	Kostur	Stan Holsopple	Stan Holsopple



DID YOU KNOW...
this time of year after Pentecost, is represented by
~green~
and symbolizes
OUR TIME OF GROWTH IN CHRIST

- Altar Guild:** Debbie Madurski & Char Feiler
- Counters:** Debbie Madurski & Char Feiler
- Ushers:** Ushers as assigned by B. Dorler Head Usher
- Flight Path Food Stand Ministry Items Needed:** All non-perishable items
- Collection box on Powell Ave. or drop-off at church:** Stan Holsopple

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment – please find an alternate & notify the church office.

Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for December
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 15TH



KEEP IN PRAYER: Denise Arnold’s Mom - Lucie Arndt and sister, Lana as well as brother-in-law Pastor Huhn; John & Tim Botwright, Wally Coughlin’s sister & family; the Feiler & Lee families; Ruth & Ken Foos – friends of Carol McCray; Jim & Lorraine Hornaman, Kyle Husted, Jackie – Stephanie Wood’s niece; Carolyn Kuntz & family, Jim Kuntz, Nancy Leonard – Pastor Karen’s friend, Diane McGranor, Phyllis Lindahl, Carole Rickrode, Sharon Roemer, Jan Rowe – Pastor Karen’s friend, and all of our members who are grieving; who are in nursing homes, who are serving on the “front line” during the COVID-19 pandemic or who are ill at home.

We pray for those in the military: Scott Case– Navy, (C. Geddes nephew) & Christopher Peterson – Navy (Grandson of the late Agnes & Chuck Peterson).

Shut-In Ministry

*No time in your busy life for much more?
How about just an occasional phone call or card?
Current Shut-in list: Audree Adams, Judi Casler,
Sally Fager.*

Please remember the members of Immanuel who are “shut in,” and cannot make it to service, you may want to offer them a ride, give them a friendly call, send them a card. The current Shut-In Mailing List is available in the office or see our current directory.

If you are sick or in the hospital please notify the church office and if you’d like home communion or a copy of our newsletter ~ please let us know in the office.



LOST & FOUND

We have a few lost & found items in the Admin. Ofc. of the church if you are missing something.



FAITH IN ACTION

Sincere thanks from our Social Ministry Committee to all who were able to support our Fall Appeal for the Holy Trinity Soup and Pasta Kitchen.

We will once again be filling Christmas bags for 36 residents of Community Shelter Services so please watch for our "Needs List" posting in November and sign-up as you are able.

School Supplies Collection Update and Thanks again!!



Thank you
for sharing
your
Time &
Talents

As you know our Immanuel Social Ministry Committee coordinated our end of Summer School Supplies collection which we blessed on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. The items collected were donated to Meadville school where Mary Hauser works. With the remaining financial donations our Social Ministry committee was able to purchase the following items for Gail Klimow's 5th grade class at Edison School in Erie. (Gail is a teacher there and Penny Maloney's sister.)

Purchased in quantities of 25 were dry erase markers, clip boards, glue sticks, erasers, pencils, crayons, and plastic folders.

Thanks again for your generous donations!!



HOLIDAY POINSETTIA AND HUNGER APPEAL

I would like to give _____ flowers for the Special Offering for Christmas at \$8.00 each.

\$ _____ is enclosed.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Please indicate your preference below

- _____ please deliver to shut in or local charity
- _____ I will deliver to shut in or local charity
- _____ I prefer to pick up after late service

Instead of flowers I would like to give _____ for the Special Offering for Christmas to go towards eliminating hunger locally and globally.

\$ _____ is enclosed.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

PLACE FORM & DONATION IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR SEND TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY DECEMBER 13, 2020.

Annual Stewardship Drive – please participate

It is that time of year again when we ask you to help us plan ahead for the coming year of 2021 and in so doing we are asking if you can make a commitment to giving your time, talent and financial support to the ministry of Immanuel. With you we can do all things through God who helps us.

Please fill out this form, and the Time and Talent form and return them to us as soon as you can.

*Thank you on behalf of the Immanuel Council and Stewardship Committee
Cindy Geddes – Stewardship Committee Liaison to Council*



With a grateful heart for God's boundless generosity and as an expression of my Christian stewardship, I make this commitment for Christ's church and the ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

My/our commitment is: \$ _____
per week, or

per month, or \$ _____

per year \$ _____

I understand I may adjust my pledge at any time by contacting the church office.

Name _____ Date _____

Email address _____

(Cut here, put in sealed envelope marked: "Attn: Stewardship" and place in the offering plate or give to the Church Office)



Pledge Commitment for 2021 to Immanuel Lutheran Church

For my records, my commitment is:

\$ _____

per _____

(keep this portion for your records)

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT**

Please consider expanding your involvement in the life and ministry of our congregation in the coming year. If you have more than one family member, please initial the activity in which each member would like to be involved.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

In recognition of God's love and gifts, I would like to share my time and talents in the following ways:

Worship/Music

- Committee Member _____
- Sing in Choir _____
- Play Piano _____
- Other musical instruments _____
- Acolyte _____
- Altar Guild _____
- Usher _____
- Worship Assistant _____
- Lector _____
- Write prayers _____

- Help in Kitchen _____
- Bake Sale _____
(sitting at table during sale)
- Visit Hospitals, Shut-ins _____
- Deliver Flowers _____
- Dinners _____
- Furnish Dishes _____
- Serve/Clean Up _____
- Habitat for Humanity _____
- CROP Walk _____
- Sewing/Quilting Group _____

Christian Education

- Committee Member _____
- Sunday School Teacher _____
- Sunday School Helper _____
- Sunday School Substitute _____
- Work with Teens _____
- Work with Youth Group _____
- Bible Study Group _____
- Vacation Bible School _____
- Volunteer in Nursery _____ (Clearance req'd)

Property

- Weeding/Trimming Grounds _____
- Committee Member _____
- Repairs on Church Property _____
- Specify Other _____

Willing to be called to help out around the church _____

I am interested in:

- Women of ELCA _____
- Lutherlyn _____
- Adult Fellowship Group _____
- Lutheran Men in Mission _____
- Over 40 Luncheon _____
- New Member Sponsor _____
- Immanuel Players (Play) _____
- NWPA Synod Green Team _____

If there are other ways you would like to serve, please indicate below:

Outreach & Growth

- Committee Member _____
- Visitor to Homes _____
- Greeter at Services _____
- Telephone Caller _____
- Fill in for Coffee Hour _____

Congregation Council Member _____

Support

- Stewardship Committee Member _____
- Finance Committee Member _____
- Counting Team Member _____
- Help in Church Office _____
- Write Articles for Newsletter _____
- Grant Writing _____
- Thrivent Member/Grants _____

Service

- Social Ministry Committee Member _____
- Help with Holy Trinity Pasta Kitchen _____
(last Thursday in October – Dinner)



November Birthdays

- 1 Jaxon Ditzler
- 7 Barbara Coughlin, Sally Leubin
- 12 Judy Guthrie
- 13 Richard Hetrick
- 14 Debbie Madurski
- 22 David Mays
- 24 Ann Anderson
- 29 Jennifer Geddes Hall/Brian Redditt
- 30 Carolyn Dean

Everyone loves a birthday card! Please remember a member!!

November Anniversaries

Celebrations

Did I forget you? Please e-mail me or call me with your birthdays, anniversaries or a special day you would like us to share.

immluthch@verizon.net

of Life and

Love

November 2020



Greetings of Peace

Thankful

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY One Service 9:30 a.m. Drive-In & Indoor QUARTER SUNDAY	2 6:30pm Property Committee Mtg.	3 ELECTION DAY OFFICE CLOSED 	4 COVID CLEANING IN AM- BLDG. CLOSED IN AM Ofc. open 12-4 Pastor Kostur in 12:00 – 4:30 AA 7:30 PM	5	6	7
8 One Service 9:30 a.m. Drive-In & Indoor COUNCIL MTG. AFTER CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES AT 10:30 a.m. in Soc. Hall	9 7pm Flagship City Chorus – Soc. Hall	10	11 VETERAN'S DAY  TOPS 9:00 AM AA 7:30 PM	12	13	14
15 One Service 9:30 a.m. Drive-In & Indoor Sunday School 10:30 a.m. DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE		16	17	18 TOPS 9:00 AM AA 7:30 PM	19	20
22 One Service 9:30 a.m. Drive-In & indoor Sunday School 10:30 a.m. MITTEN TREES GOING UP!!	23 7pm Flagship City Chorus– Soc. Hall	24	25 TOPS 9:00 AM AA 7:30 PM	26 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED 	27	28
29 SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING 1 ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT One Service 9:30 a.m. Drive-In & Indoor Sunday School 10:30 a.m.		30				



Immanuel Hours

Church Office – 833-4062
Hours - Mon-Thurs. 8:30am-12:30pm
immluthch@verizon.net

Staff

Pastor Karen Kostur
Church Caretaker: Wally Coughlin
Organist/Music: Director Bryan Timm
Admin. Ofc.: Lori Swanson Nemenz

Sunday school

Superintendent: Carolyn Kuntz
Assistant: Janice Kreger

Elected Lay Leadership

Treasurer: Bill Redditt
Fin. Sec.: Cindy Geddes – 734-1286

Church Council Officers

Pres. – Debbie Redditt – 449-1855
Vice Pres. – Bob Dorler – 833-2719
Secretary – Debbie Madurski – 774-3590

Council Members

Cindy Eckman, Char Feiler, George Pfeiffer, Sally Leubin, Bob Dorler, Cindy Geddes

Church Council Committees

*We invite all members of Immanuel to join any of these committees and/or offer your gifts where you can – many hands make light work!!
Council usually meets the 2nd Sunday of the month*

Christian Education

Council liaison: Cindy Eckman

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES: NOV. 8, 2020

MITTEN TREES GO UP: NOV. 22, 2020

**MISSION OFFERING FOR COMM. SHELTER SERVICES:
NOV. 29, 2020**

Communications

Council liaison: vacant Committee Chair: vacant

Check out our website and "FRIEND" us on [Facebook](#)
Did you miss church? Need to keep updated and want easy access to the church calendar, newsletter or annual report?

Check out our website <http://www.ilc-erie.org/>

Fellowship, Outreach & Growth

Council liaisons: Sally Leubin

Finance

Council liaison: George Pfeiffer

Property

Council liaison: Bob Dorler Committee Chair: Stan Holsopple

**YOUR HELP WITH CLEANING, ETC. ALWAYS
APPRECIATED – NEED SERVICE HOURS?**

Property Committee Meeting – Nov. 2 – 6:30 p.m.

Stewardship

Council liaison: Cindy Geddes

ANNUAL PLEDGE & TIME & TALENT FORMS

Social Ministry Committee

Council liaison: Debbie Madurski – Committee chair: Debbie Madurski

COMMUNITY SHELTER CHRISTMAS BAGS

Worship & Music

Council liaison: Debbie Redditt Chair: vacant

****Looking For New Committee Co-Chairs****

DRIVE-IN AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES



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