



**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

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**Erie, PA 16505**

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**LIKE US on Facebook**

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**Vicar Cowey: [victimmluth@gmail.com](mailto:victimmluth@gmail.com) - (717-650-0999)**

## **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM NWPA ELCA NEWSLETTER:**

**July 12-22, 2017**

Embark on an inspirational journey through Germany that follows the epic trail blazed by Martin Luther, marking the 500th Anniversary of the day of the Reformation.

[Click here](http://www.nwpaelca.org/uploads/3/1/5/3/3153921/germany_trip.pdf) for brochure -[http://www.nwpaelca.org/uploads/3/1/5/3/3153921/germany\\_trip.pdf](http://www.nwpaelca.org/uploads/3/1/5/3/3153921/germany_trip.pdf)

[Click here for website](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/735199#.VstxufkrKUk) <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/735199#.VstxufkrKUk>

[Click Here](http://www.nwpaelca.org/uploads/3/1/5/3/3153921/doc071116.pdf) for Reservation Form <http://www.nwpaelca.org/uploads/3/1/5/3/3153921/doc071116.pdf>

### **The Northwestern Pennsylvania Institute for Ministry Education 2017**

A collaborative ministry of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Northwestern Pennsylvania Diocese of The Episcopal Church

### **The Reformation Treatises**

Led by Dr. Glenn Holland Professor of Religious Studies Allegheny College, Meadville, PA

Saturdays, March 11, 25, April 8 and 228:45 a.m. – Noon  
Christ Episcopal Church 870 Diamond Park Square,  
Meadville, PA

A time of learning and discussion for clergy and laity

The three treatises Martin Luther wrote in the watershed year of 1520 – To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation, The Babylonian Captivity of the Church, and The Freedom of a Christian– laid out both the general outlines of Luther's evangelical theology and provided the foundation for the Protestant Reformation. We will read and discuss each of these treatises in an attempt to understand their political, cultural, and theological impact and their concise expression of Luther's ideas about God, humanity, the Church, and the means of salvation. Primary text: Martin Luther, Three Treatises (from the American Edition of Luther's Works), available as a paperback at \$18.84 at Amazon.

<https://www.amazon.com/Three-Treatises-Martin-Luther/dp/0800616391/>

For more information or to register, contact: Ellen Shulin ([nwpasynodelca@gmail.com](mailto:nwpasynodelca@gmail.com)) at the Northwestern PA Synod office or Vanessa Butler ([vbutler@dionwpa.org](mailto:vbutler@dionwpa.org)) at the Diocesan Church Center.

### **United Lutheran Seminary Launches Presidential Search**

United Lutheran Seminary (ULS), a new graduate and professional school in theological education with deep historical roots, has launched its search for a president. A seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), ULS is a single school with two campuses, consolidating seminaries from Philadelphia and Gettysburg. It will open July 1, 2017. The Board of Trustees seeks a president who will serve as chief executive officer. The successful candidate must possess the exceptional vocational identity, fundraising skills, experience and vision to lead ULS from its inception as it prepares public leaders to serve the church's ongoing and increasingly challenging mission, and to intentionally foster a diverse institution of faith and learning with strong relationships between ULS and its constituencies and partners. For a position description and full information, visit <http://newschooloftheology.info/>. Nominations and letters of application will be received at the secure e-mail address [ULSPresidentsearch@gmail.com](mailto:ULSPresidentsearch@gmail.com) until Monday, January 23, 2017.

## FREED AND RENEWED IN CHRIST -500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

### Catechism Celebration

February 19, 2017 4:00 pm

Rev. Dr. Ralph Jones, Bishop

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

3325 Morefield Road, Hermitage, PA

*Whenever you enter a house, first say, 'May peace be on  
this house! 'Luke 10:5  
Watchword February*

**Dear members and friends of  
Immanuel Lutheran Church:**

It is interesting to hear and read this watchword for the month February. When reading this in context we learn that Jesus appointed 72 and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. This direction was important, when entering a house of a stranger. "I come in peace and will no harm", comes to mind.

Not many of us might enter anymore a house of a stranger in mission anymore. Strangers we do meet in worship, for example.

A warm **greeting** and starting a brief conversation will lower the anxiety and open the door into the community. It made a huge difference and we felt cared for that someone offered to sit with my husband and me during worship, when we moved to NE Ohio over 7 years ago. This helped us to become a part of that particular worshipping community in NE Ohio.

Greetings of peace are part of our liturgy and we use them many times:

**Greetings** have their place in the gathering rite at the beginning of worship. The presiding minister greets the whole assembly with the words of Paul (2 Cor. 13:13) to greet the churches more than over 1950 years ago<sup>1</sup>. Then the assembly greets the presiding minister in return. Therefore we are in dialogue with each other. Another greeting is: "**the Lord be with you** " and the reply of the assembly "And also with you". This is located at the beginning of the " liturgy of the meal". This is an ancient dialogue. "Both greetings are placed at two major tasks the presiding minister is appointed to do. These two greetings signal love, trust, mutual service and the hope in God, who makes such service possible<sup>2</sup>."

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" is another greeting before the sermon.

Then we have the "**Peace**". It closes the word-section of the service as we transition to the "**Meal**" – it acts like a seam<sup>3</sup>. The peace functions like a seal on our prayers (of intercession for example). It shows that we are sincere in our prayers. As Christ stood among his disciples on Sunday, stating "**Peace be with you**" (John 20:19, 26), so we speak this

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<sup>1</sup>Brugh, Lorraine S., Lathrop Gordon: The Sunday Assembly: 1 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress, 2008 – location 2005, 44%

<sup>2</sup>Brugh, Lorraine S., Lathrop Gordon: The Sunday Assembly: 1 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress, 2008 – location 2029, 44%

<sup>3</sup>Brugh, Lorraine S., Lathrop Gordon: The Sunday Assembly: 1 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress, 2008 – location 2669, 58%

gift to the presiding minister and then to each other including the visitor in our midst<sup>4</sup>. In other words we pray for and have received the reconciliation of Jesus Christ.

Now we are moving into the liturgy of the meal. Again presiding minister greets and more so in dialogue with the congregation. **“The Lord be with you. – And also with you. Lift up your hearts. – We lift them to the Lord. ....”** These words may remind us about the greeting of the angel Gabriel to Mary in the Gospel of Luke<sup>5</sup>. “The assembly and the presiding minister are invited to know of the presence of Christ whom we have encountered in the word”<sup>5</sup>. So much for a little look into our liturgy and the importance of greetings in Lutheran Worship. Its more than just words, we connect with God and we build community.

Your servant in Christ,

Vicar Cowey, LDA-Deaconess, B.C.C.



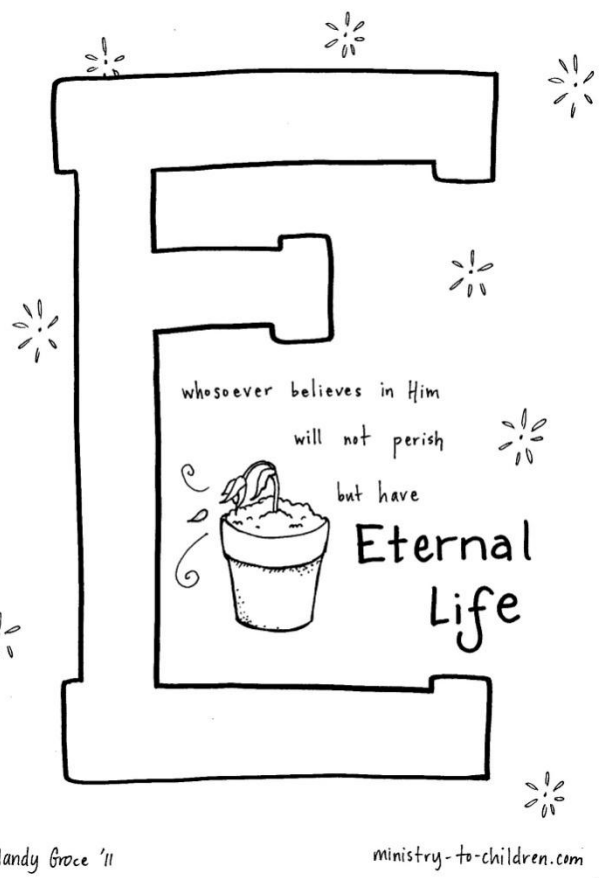
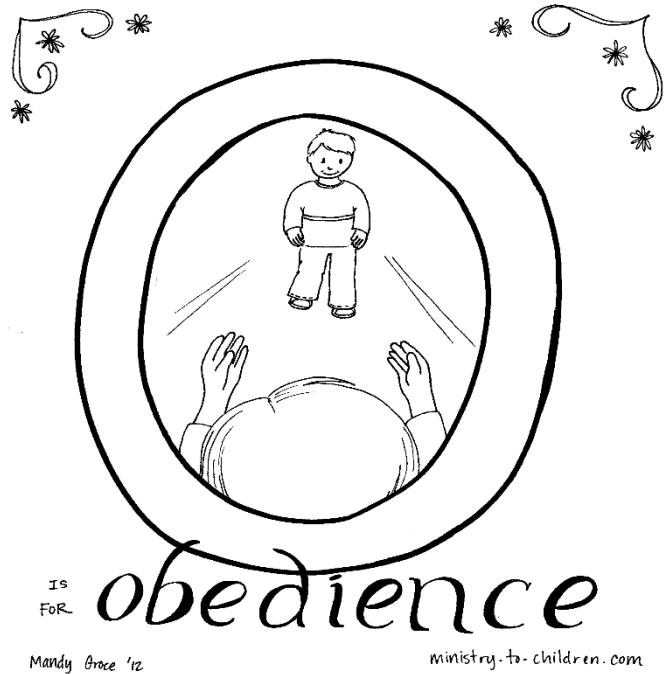
**Please Note:** Please inform the Vicar when you are going into the hospital. If you want to be visited, please let us know. Thank you. Vicar’s cell phone is: 717-650-0999

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<sup>4</sup>Brugh, Lorraine S., Lathrop Gordon: The Sunday Assembly: 1 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress, 2008 – location 2676, 58%

<sup>5</sup>Brugh, Lorraine S., Lathrop Gordon: The Sunday Assembly: 1 - Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress, 2008 – location 3156, 69%

# YOUTH PAGES



## YOUTH PAGES

Birds of the Bible

Bill Brinkworth



<b>Words to</b>	doves	nighthawk	peacock
<b>Find:</b>	eagles	ospray	pelican
bat	hawks	ossifrage	pigeon
bitterns	herons	ostriches	quail
cormorants	kites	owl	raven
cuckow	lapwing	partridge	sparrow

Source: <http://www.openthoumineeyes.com/puzzle/birds.htm>



## Sunday School



Greetings from the second floor. The mitten trees have been put away for another year. I am very pleased to report that we collected **212** items. Thanks to Anita and Joe Byrne everything was given to the Bethesda Trinity Community Center. Thank you to everyone for your generosity in decorating our trees. Our Shrove Tuesday celebration will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7 pm in Leubin-McCray hall. Pancakes, sausage, applesauce and good fellowship are just too good to pass up. A free will offering will be taken to cover expenses with all extra proceeds going to the pasta kitchen. Please fill out a sign-up sheet (in the church bulletin on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup>) and return it in the offering plates or to the church office by Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. Do you know what happens during Sunday school on the fourth Sunday in Lent? (March 26<sup>th</sup>). Please join us and find out (9:30-10:30 am). Thanks for reading.

Carolyn Kuntz

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(Special Note: Also sharing this information with you provided by Janice Kreger. Adult Sunday School, led by Janice Kreger, is now meeting from 9-9:30 am in the lounge.)

## Soup Cook-Off – February 26<sup>th</sup> after late service



The Fellowship, Outreach, and Growth Committee (FOG) will be hosting the third annual “Souper Bowl” Luncheon after 2<sup>nd</sup> service on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Please accept the challenge and enter your favorite soup. Voting will take place for the most popular creation and the winner will have bragging rights for the next year! See if you can win the trophy for your own mantel. Grab those soup ladles and see the sign-up sheet across from the church office.

# SOCK DRIVE



**The Social Ministry Committee is asking members of Immanuel to bring in warm socks to be given to the residents staying at the Overflow Shelters. Donations can be placed in box near the side entrance during February and March.**



## SOUPER BOWL February 5<sup>th</sup>

**On February 5<sup>th</sup> – Super Bowl Sunday - the Social Ministry Committee will be collecting cash donations for the Holy Trinity Pasta Kitchen. There will be large soup pots stationed at both doors before and after each service for the collection.**



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SOCIAL MINISTRY

PLEASE JOIN US (...*WEATHER PERMITTING*)  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18 AT 10 AM

ALL SEW SATURDAY

The Social Ministry Committee is  
sponsoring a day of quilting to  
benefit Lutheran World Relief.

No sewing experience is needed.

Bring a sandwich. Beverages and  
dessert will be provided.

Talk to Judy Stewart or Carol  
Ketchel for details.

## February 2017

### Worship Calendar for Immanuel Lutheran, Erie PA

Date	Presider	Assistant	Lay Distributor	Lector
<b>2/5/17</b>				
Early	V. Cowey	Char Feiler	Hannah Mays	Rick Kuntz
Late	V. Cowey	Bob Dorler	Anita Byrne	Gretchen Andrews
<b>2/12/17</b>				
Early	P. Lundwall	Debbie Redditt	n/a	Bill Redditt
Late	P. Lundwall	Gretchen Andrews	n/a	Debbie Madurski
<b>2/19/17</b>				
Early	V. Cowey	Stan Holsopple	Rick Kuntz	Barb Coughlin
Late	V. Cowey	Cindy Geddes	Anita Byrne	Gretchen Andrews
<b>2/26/17</b>				
Early	V. Cowey	Bob Dorler	Hannah Mays	Bob Dorler
Late	V. Cowey	Gretchen Andrews	Debbie Redditt	Lori Nemenz

**Acolyte:**

**Altar Guild:** C.Feiler/S.Roemer/D.Madurski

**Counters:** John & Maria Siefert/Debbie Redditt

**Ushers:** E: Dave & Hannah Mays L: John & Maria Siefert

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

### Save the Date: Celebrations

### **February Birthdays**

February	12	Maria Siefert
	13	Vic Paternosh
	18	Christopher Bureau
	19	Judy Stewart
	22	George Shabla

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

### **February Anniversaries**

**Congratulations** to those celebrating their anniversary on:

February	1	Cindy and Dave Eckman
	14	George & Sue Pfeiffer

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](mailto:immluthch@verizon.net)

**KEEP IN PRAYER:** Lucie Arndt, Denise Arnold, Esther Bax, Rose Brown, Betsy Case, Jeremy Cool, Pat Dehner, David Guthrie, Jim Hornaman, Pastor Huhn, Carolyn Kuntz, Jim Kuntz, Marie McKinney, Michael, Sharon Roemer, Crystal S., Pastor Schultz, Debbie Sitter, Robin Steger, Pastors Washill & Weber, Kim Wingard, and all of our members who are grieving; who are in nursing homes, or 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).



*Please also 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 List is available in the office.*

### **Sanctuary Candle & Altar Flower Sponsorship Charts for 2017**

The 2017 Altar Flower and Sanctuary Candle Charts are posted in the narthex and we invite you to consider sponsoring as you are able. Please sign your name on the chart, along with your commemoration next to the date(s) you select or call the church office at 833-4062, email us, or stop by and I will take your request.

Either is a great way to honor/memorialize that special occasion.

The cost of Altar Flowers from the florist is \$30; the sanctuary candles are \$5/wk and rosebuds are \$10 – due on the date of sponsorship.

If you prefer to bring your own flowers or plants please contact the office to make arrangements.

### **2017 Envelopes and Tax Statements**

The 2017 offering envelopes and 2016 annual giving statements are available for pick up at church.

If you need special arrangements, please contact the church office at 814-833-4062

## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month – 7PM*

### **Christian Education**

Council liaison: Ben Reitz

*Shrove Tues. Pancake Supper – Feb. 28 – see details in the newsletter & on the bulletin boards*

### **Communications**

Council liaison: vacant    Committee Chair: vacant

Check out our website and “FRIEND” us on [Facebook](#)

Did you miss church? Like to refresh your day by reading the sermon? 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: David & Hannah Mays

*Soup Cook Off – Feb. 26 – see details in the newsletter & on the bulletin boards*

### **Finance**

Council liaison: Gretchen Andrews

### **Property**

Council liaison: Debbie Redditt    Committee Chair: Stan Holsopple

*Property Committee usually meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. of the month-7pm*

### **Stewardship**

Council liaison: John Seifert

**Please fill out your Time & Talent forms and consider a 2017 Pledge –pick up a form at church or ask for one in the office**

### **Social Ministry Committee**

Council liaison: Mary Hauser – Committee chair: vacant

*All Sew Saturday, Souper Bowl collection & Sock Collection – see details on the bulletin board and in the newsletter*

### **Worship & Music**

Council liaison: Kim Lee    Committee Chair: vacant



### **Immanuel Hours**

Church Office – 833-4062

Hours - Mon-Thurs. 8:30am-12:30pm

### **Staff**

Vicar Heidi Cowey

Bell Choir Director Lorraine Hornaman

Church Caretaker Wally Coughlin

Organist/Music Director Bryan Timm

Administrative Secretary Lori Swanson Nemenz

### **Sunday school**

Superintendent Carolyn Kuntz

Assistant Janice Kreger

### **Elected Lay Leadership**

Treasurer John Siefert

Financial Secretary Cindy Geddes – 734-1286

### **Church Council Officers**

President David Mays – 838-3239

Vice President – Ben Reitz – 460-0575

Secretary Kim Lee -838-4022

### **Council Members**

Gretchen Andrews, Cindy Eckman, Mary Hauser, Kim Lee, David Mays, Hannah Mays, Debbie Redditt, Ben Reitz, John Siefert.