

# MARCH 2024

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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[www.ImmanuelPhilly.org](http://www.ImmanuelPhilly.org)  
[www.HillHappenings.org](http://www.HillHappenings.org)



## Sunday, March 3

Join us for Worship,  
Coffee and Conversation  
as we officially welcome  
Pastor Brown

## Immanuel Newsletter GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

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### Join us for Bible Study with Pastor Brown

Every Thursday morning  
Beginning March 7  
At 10:15 AM  
In the Conference Room

Hello Immanuel Church Family and Friends,

President's

For those who were able to join us a few Sundays ago, we experienced a chilly Sanctuary service when both water pumps in the heater failed! We have been able to get the problems fixed, however, it was a costly expense.

**Our Annual Meeting scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup> must be postponed until June 2<sup>nd</sup>.** This is due to the sudden passing of Elaine Bradley. Because her passing was unexpected, we have a team working diligently to complete the 2023 year-end report. The data provided by the Financial Secretary is key to completing the financial picture and developing a Ministry Investment Plan (Budget) for 2024.

This is a month of special events (please see the calendar on the back page) along with special worship services at Immanuel during Holy Week. We encourage you to be present in worship either on campus, online or by telephone. Please see page 3 for the March Worship Schedule.

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the official start date of Pastor Brown as our Interim Pastor.** We will have a special welcome for her during our Coffee and Conversation Hour in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Please remember to start wearing your name tag if you join us in person at worship so Pastor Brown can get to know us by name. Please make every effort to be there!

What does interim ministry mean? Immanuel is in a time of transition. During this time of "interim" ministry, the congregation and pastor will work together, exploring the history of Immanuel and its ministry, and visioning for the future--how are we living out our mission and ministry, and some dreaming of what we could be. The eventual goal is to complete the required paperwork and send it to the Synod, and finally call the next settled pastor. There is no set time of how long this process takes. Meanwhile, Pastor Brown will be the Pastor of the congregation, leading worship, visiting, attending events, leading Bible study, and all the other pastoral duties.

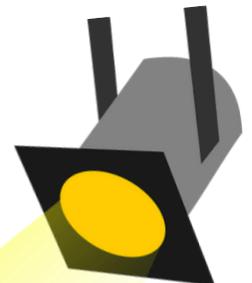
Please keep Immanuel in your prayers, Christine Blankenhorn

**Spotlight on... Pastor Brown**

Reverend Sandra Brown has been an ordained pastor in the ELCA for thirty-six years, all of which have been served in the Philadelphia area. She and her husband were the first two people ordained in the ELCA (small claim to fame!).

Over the course of her ministry, she has served in North Philadelphia, Northeast Philadelphia, and Lower Bucks County. Officially, she has been an interim pastor for 10 years. Unofficially, she has been doing transition work most of her ministry, since before there was even an official designation as such. She's coming to Immanuel from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Southampton.

Pastor Brown has four grown children, five blood grandchildren, and at least eight heart grandchildren (who are children of others who call her Mom). She loves to sing and dance and act crazy (watch out!), and tries to find a little joy in every day.





## Sunday Services

**March 3 - 3rd Sunday in Lent**

*The Cleansing of the Temple*

**10:15 AM** - Worship Service with Holy Communion

**March 10 - 4th Sunday in Lent**

*The Lifting Up of the Son of Man*

**10:15 AM** - Worship Service

**March 17 - 5th Sunday in Lent**

*The Grain of Wheat Dying in the Earth*

**10:15 AM** - Worship Service

**March 24 - Sunday of the**

**Passion/Palm Sunday**

*The Passion of the Lord*

**10:15 AM** - Worship Service

**March 31 - Easter Sunday**

*The Resurrection of Our Lord*

**10:15 AM** - Festival Service  
with Holy Communion

## Holy Week and Easter Services



**March 24 - Sunday of the**

**Passion/Palm Sunday**

*The Passion of the Lord*

**10:15 AM** - Worship Service

**March 28 – Maundy Thursday**

**12:00 Noon** – Worship Service

with Holy Communion

**March 29 – Good Friday**

**12:00 Noon** – Solemn Worship

Service in English

**3:00 PM – Karfreitag**

Solemn Worship Service in

German

**March 31 - Easter Sunday**

*The Resurrection of Our Lord*

**10:15 AM** - Festival Service  
with Holy Communion



## **COPING WITH CHANGE**

### **Mid-week Lenten Meditation**

Change is a constant in our lives. Some changes are gradual, and others happen in the blink of an eye. We choose to undergo some changes while others are forced upon us.

Change is hard. We long for the familiar but often find ourselves in the midst of uncertainty and the unknown.

Join us each week as we meditate on coping with change through scripture, song, testimony, and prayer.

**Thursdays during Lent  
March 7, 14 & 21**

**11:30 AM in the Parlor  
(followed by a light lunch)**

**7:00 PM on Zoom only**  
(The Zoom connection is the same as the one for Sunday Worship)



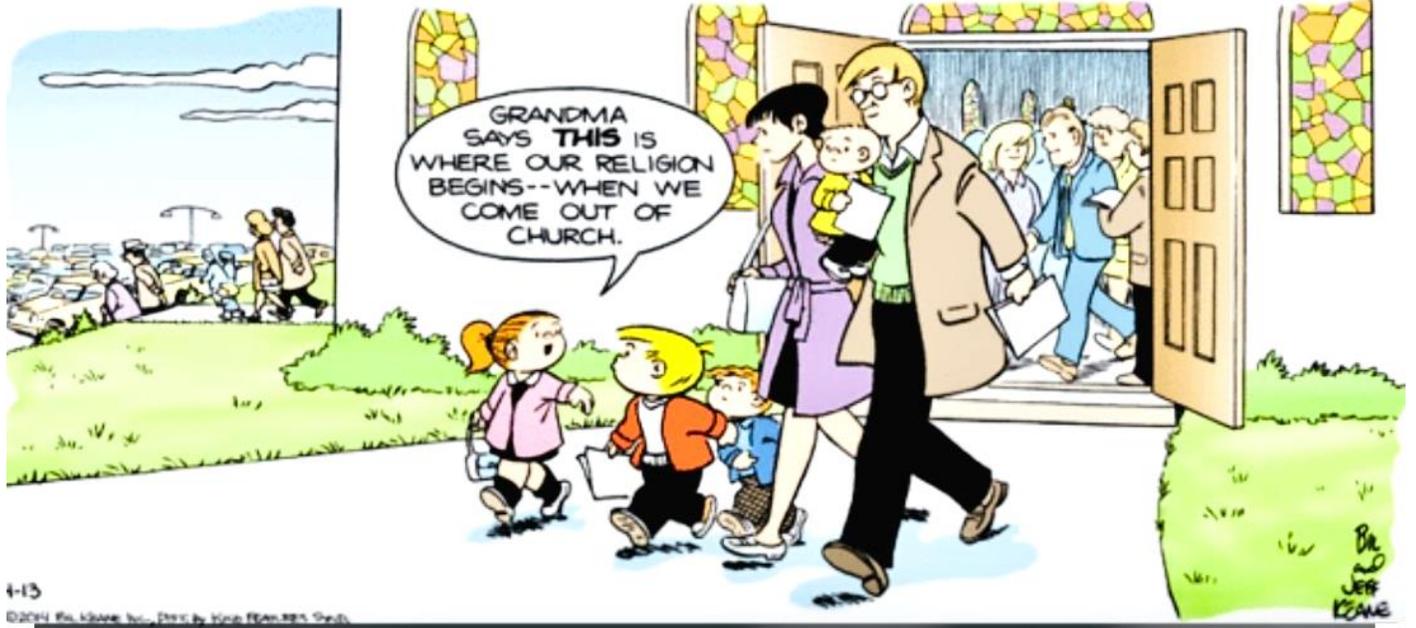
We want to hear from all of the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church as we move forward with our three-year mission plan. We need your opinion about how your church is meeting your needs, what it needs to improve upon, and what we should focus on in the coming years.

In order to accomplish that, we are asking everyone to complete an Adult Ministry Survey. So far, the members of your church council have interviewed 30 members, and we will continue to conduct in-person interviews in the coming weeks. However, if you are unable to attend worship in person or have not been coming regularly, please expect to be contacted by phone for an interview in the near future.

We want to hear from each and every one of you! Your thoughts and opinions matter to us and are needed as Immanuel moves into the future.

# THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



## St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Sunday, March 10, 2024  
12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM

*RSVP by March 7*



The Socialization Ministry invites members, friends, and neighbors of our church family to a special celebration! Join us for a safer and more meaningful St. Patrick's Day. The event will include an afternoon of fun, food, coffee, entertainment, music and more! This event is for people 16 years of age and above.

Admission is free; however, we ask that you please bring a nonperishable food item (or items) as a donation for our local food bank.

We hope you can join us for this fun event.  
**Spread the word! Invite a friend! Bring a neighbor!**

Don't forget to wear your **GREEN!**  
You might win the best dressed Irish person contest!

You can **RSVP** by going to our website [www.HillHappenings.org](http://www.HillHappenings.org) to register or by calling 215-464-1540 and leaving a message on the machine including your name, phone number and the number of people who will be attending.





Hope you can join us! Social Event, all are welcome!

We are meeting for lunch!

When: **Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM**

Where: Angelo's Italian Restaurant

441 Second Street Pike, Southampton, PA 18966

Check out the menu on their website –

[www.angelosofsouthampton.com](http://www.angelosofsouthampton.com)

If you would like to join us,

**please RSVP by Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> so we can make a reservation.**

We can meet at the church and carpool if that's more convenient.

**Contact** - Margot Purucker or Donna Day

## Easter Event

Saturday, March 30  
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM



We are planning a craft and short presentation regarding Easter and ending with an Easter Egg Hunt. There may even be a visit from the Easter Bunny!

This event is for children/grandchildren of Immanuel's families and friends as well as the community. This Event is popular and is enjoyed by all who attend.

This is a rain or shine event as we have a backup plan in the event of rain. There is no charge for this event, however, we are asking that you bring a nonperishable food item(s) for the local food bank.

Visit [www.HillHappenings.org](http://www.HillHappenings.org) to RSVP to this event by **March 27, 2024.**

(Or use this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044FA9AD28A7FC1-48024875-easter>)

## Volunteers Needed!

During coffee hour on Palm Sunday, March 24, we are filling Easter Eggs for the Easter Event. As in the past, with enough help, filling the eggs only takes about 15 to 20 minutes. We look forward to everyone helping.





This free community event was held on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM. What started as a snowy day, turned into a beautiful sunshine, but cold day!



We had 73 people attend this event! There were 122 food items donated (plus monetary donations) for our local food bank.

The Socialization Ministry greatly appreciated all the gift cards and gift basket items that were donated. We thank everyone who attended and made this event a success!



### Soup-er Bowl Sunday



Thank you for participating in this worthwhile cause!

With your generosity of soup cans, and monetary donations that were used to purchase more soup cans, **the total amount collected this year was 417**, surpassing 344 from last year!

Feast of Justice and the Somerton Food Bank will benefit from this event.

### Dinner & Movie Night Saturday, April 13

Doors open at 4:30 PM with a Spaghetti dinner beginning at 5:00 PM.

This is an RSVP event. Movie to be determined. The event is geared for people 16 years and above.



### Ladies' Tea Saturday, April 27 2:00 – 4:00 PM

We are busy planning – more information will be coming – keep looking for details!

# MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Reminder:</b> <b>Daylight Saving Time will start on March 10.</b> <b>Turn clocks <i>forward</i> one hour.</b> 					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>3</b> <b>3rd Sunday in Lent</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 1:30 PM Member Care Team  7:00 PM Evangelism Team	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:15 AM Bible Study  11:30 AM Lenten Meditation  7:00 PM Zoom Lenten Meditation	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>10</b> <b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service  <b>St. Patrick's Day Event</b> 12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:15 AM Bible Study  11:30 AM Lenten Meditation  7:00 PM Zoom Lenten Meditation	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>17</b> <b>5th Sunday in Lent</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 12:30 PM Out to Lunch	<b>20</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  6:30 PM Congregation Council	<b>21</b> 10:15 AM Bible Study  11:30 AM Lenten Meditation  7:00 PM Zoom Lenten Meditation	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>24</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>  12:00 Noon Worship Service with Holy Communion	<b>29</b> <b>Good Friday/ Karf Freitag</b>  12:00 Noon English Solemn Service  3:00 PM German Solemn Service	<b>30</b> 1:00 PM Easter Event
<b>31</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 10:15 AM Festival Service with Holy Communion						