

# APRIL 2023

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Connecting people with God and  
with other people to make a difference!*

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www.ImmanuelPhilly.org



## Easter Event

**Saturday, April 8, 2023**

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

*See Page 5*

## Immanuel Newsletter GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

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## Community Bingo Night

**Saturday, April 29**

**7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

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## Holy Week and Easter Services



*Come Worship With Us!*

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## From Pastor Hahn

My dear Immanuel church family,

“In Holy Baptism, our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**You have heard these words often**—every time when you participated in the baptism of a child or affirmed your own baptism (as we have been doing in our mini-series, “The Benefits of Baptism” in March).

**We associate the above words** with baptisms. But they are Easter words, too. (And, of course, Good Friday words.) “Sin” and “death” we know. They are part of life. But “resurrection”?

**As Spring gets underway** some people are tempted to point, as examples of resurrection, to budding trees or flowers that begin to poke their heads through the ground.

**Author and theologian**, Barbara Brown Taylor, says that would be a mistake. The re-awakening of nature every Spring is, well, natural, she says (and I paraphrase), while “resurrection” is not.

**The entire awesomeness**, mystery, and holiness—the complete “otherness”—of Christ’s resurrection from the dead on the first Easter is so unique. As the gateway to everlasting communion with God on the other side of the gate we know as “death” it is a once-in-History event.

**Sure, Easter has become commodified** and commercialized in our culture, and even some Christians have settled into shallow or perfunctory observations of this special festival.

**I trust, however**, that, with a little effort, everyone can get back in touch with the power and promise

of Easter: death, destruction, endings, loss --and all the emotions that go along with such experiences—will NOT have the last word.

**Newness, new beginnings, and hope**—these are the operating principles of Easter. The victory is ours. Thanks be to God!

Lyn and I wish you a blessed Easter!

In Christ, *Pastor Hahn*



## Holy Week and Easter Services



*Come Worship With Us!*

### April 2 – Palm Sunday

9:30 AM – English Service\*  
11:00 AM – German Service\*  
6:30 PM – English Service\*

### April 6 – Maundy Thursday

12:00 Noon – Bilingual Service\*  
7:00 PM – Bilingual Service\*

### April 7 – Good Friday

12:00 Noon – English Service  
3:00 PM – German Service#  
7:00 PM– English Service of Tenebrae

### April 9 – Easter Sunday

9:30 AM – English Service\*  
11:00 AM– German Service\*  
6:30 PM - English Service\*

\*Service with Holy Communion  
#Service preceded with Holy Communion

Bedford-Strohm über Nächstenliebe:

### "Wer fromm ist, muss auch politisch sein"

*Für den bayerischen evangelischen Landesbischof Heinrich Bedford-Strohm gehört politisches Engagement zur Christenpflicht.*

"Wer fromm ist, muss auch politisch sein", sagte der ehemalige Ratsvorsitzende der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland (EKD), Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, dem Berliner "Tagesspiegel" (Dienstag). "Jesus hat gesagt: Du sollst Gott lieben und deinen Nächsten wie dich selbst." Christentum bedeute, "dass die Gottesliebe nie von der Nächstenliebe zu trennen ist".

**Bedford-Strohm betonte**, viele Aspekte menschlicher Not hätten auch politische Ursachen: "Diese anzugehen, gehört genauso zu unserem Auftrag, wie die Symptome zu bekämpfen."

**Mit Blick auf die umstrittenen Aktionen** der Klimabewegung "Letzte Generation" sagte der evangelische Theologe: "Wir brauchen diese kompetenten Aktivisten, die ein tolles Engagement zeigen, in der Politik; als Motoren der politischen Veränderung."

**Er wünsche sich**, "dass solche Leute in den Parteien aktiv sind und massiv darauf hinwirken, dass man kapiert, dass noch nicht ausreicht, was gegenwärtig passiert", sagte Bedford-Strohm, der auch Vorsitzender des Zentralausschusses des Ökumenischen Rats der Kirchen ist.

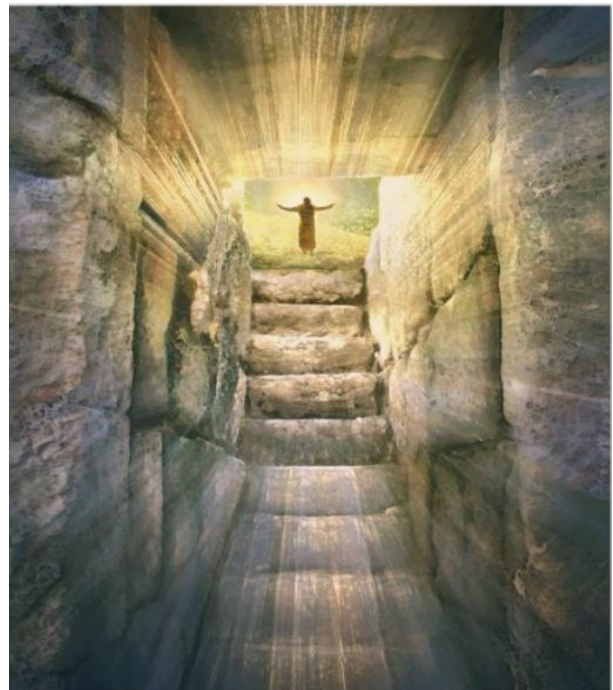


Mehr bei [www.evangelisch.de](http://www.evangelisch.de)

### Liebe ist stärker als der Tod

**Ostern, das ist das Fest purer Freude.** einer Freude, die deswegen so rein ist, weil sie die Tiefen kennt und sie doch bezwungen weiß.

**Die erste Liebe oder die Geburt** eines Kindes, Rettung aus höchster Gefahr – es gibt Ereignisse, die erfüllen uns mit unaussprechlicher, tiefer Freude. Singen möchte man und jubeln oder man bekommt kein Wort heraus vor lauter Glück.



**Ostern ist das Urdatum der Kirche.** Die drei Frauen am Grab, die Jünger, denen der Auferstandene erscheint, und Maria Magdalena, sie können nach dem ersten Schrecken nicht schweigen: Jesus lebt! Die Liebe hat den Tod bezwungen. Er hat die letzte Macht über uns verloren. Jesu Auferstehung hat alles verändert.

**Wer gegen allen Augenschein** in diesem Vertrauen lebt, der kann freier handeln, der wird aufstehen gegen alles, was das Leben bedroht. „Tod, wo ist dein Stachel?“, fragt der Apostel Paulus.

Mehr bei [www.kirchenjahr-evangelisch.de](http://www.kirchenjahr-evangelisch.de)

*For an English version, contact Pastor Hahn.*

# CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

## Congregation Annual Meeting Summary

On Sunday, March 5, the Immanuel congregation held its Annual Meeting, immediately following the combined 10:30 AM service.

- David Brabazon, Barbara Hannon and Sally Sears were newly elected to the Congregation Council.
- Outgoing members of the Congregation Council, Christel Birgel and Melissa DeVaughn, were thanked for their service.
- The Ministry Spending Plan for 2023 was approved.
- The Congregation Council was authorized to operate with ten members in 2023.



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Anneliese (Vetter) and Tristan Kimball on the arrival of their twins on February 26.

## Job Opening: Part-Time Office Assistant

Members and friends of Immanuel, do you know someone outside of our church family who is looking for a part-time job?

Immanuel is seeking an experienced Office Assistant who has the ability to multitask, possesses articulate communication skills, pays strong attention to detail and is proficient with Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point.

For more information, please visit our website:  
<http://www.immanuelphilly.org/news.html>

Please share the information with any interested parties!

## Council Officers and Members for 2023

Dr. Norbert Hahn, Pastor  
Christine Blankenhorn, President\*  
Judi Hannigan, Vice-President\*  
Marion Morris, Secretary  
Margret Rommel, Treasurer  
Elaine Bradley, Financial Secretary

David Brabazon  
Jim Clements  
Barbara Hannon  
Cindy Mitchell  
Sally Sears

\*Elected by Council on 3/25/23

## Could you—and would you—offer someone a ride to worship?



Our church family has several individuals who would love to participate in worship on the church campus but need a ride to do so.

Would you be able and willing—maybe once every two months, or maybe just for big holidays like Easter—to go a little bit out of your way and give a ride to a brother or sister in Christ?

This would be a wonderful act of kindness and Christian service.

If you would consider serving in this capacity or would like more information, please contact Margot Purucker.

If you cannot serve this way, please pray that God will lift up others in our church family who might be willing to do so.



## Easter Event

**Saturday, April 8, 2023**

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**



Immanuel is hosting an Easter Event that includes the Easter Story and crafts followed by a traditional Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Bunny will also make an appearance.

Immanuel's children and grandchildren are invited, as well as friends of Immanuel and the community. Immanuel does not charge for this event; however, we are asking for the donation of a non-perishable food item(s) for the local food bank.

Please see either of our websites: [ImmanuelPhilly.org](http://ImmanuelPhilly.org) or [HillHappenings.org](http://HillHappenings.org) to register.



This **free** community event will be held on Saturday, April 29 from **7:00 - 8:30 PM**. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us for an evening of **BINGO** games and gift card prizes.

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

## Women's Brunch

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

Mark your calendars!

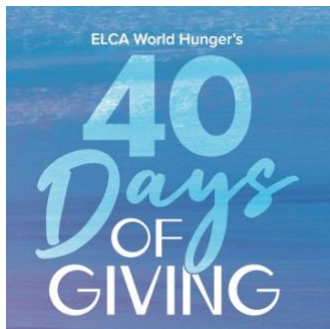
Life is like a puzzle with a variety of pieces interlocking to create a masterpiece! Join us for a morning of fun for donation of \$5.00. We will enjoy a nice brunch as we share fellowship, reflect on God's Word and create a 'masterpiece' to take home!

**Please reserve by May 14<sup>th</sup>!**

For information contact  
Judy Friedman or Marion Morris.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE



At the beginning of the Lenten season, we invited you to set a goal for your giving to ELCA World Hunger as part of 40 Days of Giving.

Now is the time to make your contribution. Give online through Immanuel (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRFO/campaign/C-ZDBW>) or write a check to Immanuel Lutheran Church, with ELCA World Hunger on the memo line.

*I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to Pastor Hahn and the entire congregation at Immanuel church for making my birthday so special.*

*It really made me smile to see all the signatures and best wishes on the beautiful birthday card. I was overwhelmed by the generous gift as well.*

*Thank you to all!  
God's blessings!*

*Gratefully,  
Sonya Novak*



Thank you for your support to sustain the work of Feast of Justice. Specifically, we want to acknowledge your gift of 489lbs of dry goods, 8lbs of baby supplies, and 15lbs of home essentials given on 02/08/2023. This is incredible gift helps us continue our mission to address hunger, meet needs, and inspire hope in our community of Northeast Philadelphia.

The cost of food is at an all-time high and we are noticing the need in our community growing. With the help of individuals such as yourself, this summer we served between 250-300 households and distributed more than 20,297 lbs. of food each week in our programs. We offered summer programs, such as, Let's Eat and our Outdoor Mini Pantry to ensure our community was receiving food while the kids were out of school. We have seen our programming respond to COVID changes by continuously pivoting to keep our guests and staff safe, while also providing our guests with choices around the food they receive for their family.

We continue to work towards the development of the new Northeast Services Hub in Oxford Circle, with an opening date to come soon! This will allow us to collaborate with other partner agencies to provide creative wrap-around services to the community along a vital neighborhood corridor. Your donation is critical to the success of this work; we thank you for your trust and generosity.

In hope,  
Rev. Patricia Neale  
Executive Director



**FEAST OF JUSTICE**

*Addressing hunger, meeting needs, and inspiring hope as we work toward abundant justice in Northeast Philadelphia and beyond.*

# APRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Please note:</b>  <b>All worship services are now in-person, online, and by telephone.</b></p>						<p><b>1</b>            9:30 AM            Immanuel German School</p>
<p><b>2</b>   <b>Palm Sunday</b>             9:30 AM English Service            11:00 AM German Service   <i>Both services with Holy Communion</i></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b>             1:30 PM            Member Care Team             7:00 PM            Evangelism Team             7:30 PM            German Meditation (online)</p>	<p><b>5</b>             10:00 AM            Bible Study             7:00 PM            Bible Study</p>	<p><b>6</b>   <b>Maundy Thursday</b>             12:00 Noon            Bilingual Communion Service             7:00 PM            Bilingual Communion Service</p>	<p><b>7</b>   <b>Good Friday</b>             12:00 Noon            Bilingual Service             3:00 PM            German Service (preceded by Holy Communion)             7:00 PM            English Tenebrae Service</p>	<p><b>8</b>   <b>Easter Saturday</b>             1:00 PM            Easter Event</p>
<p><b>9</b>   <b>Easter Sunday</b>             9:30 AM English Easter Celebration            11:00 AM German Easter Celebration            6:30 PM Evening Easter Celebration   <i>All services with Holy Communion</i></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b>             10:00 AM            Bible Study             7:00 PM            Bible Study</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b>             9:30 AM            Immanuel German School</p>
<p><b>16</b>   <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b>             10:15 AM Combined Service</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b>             10:00 AM            Deans Meeting</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b>             9:30 AM            Immanuel German School</p>
<p><b>23</b>   <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>             9:30 AM English Service            11:00 AM German Service            6:30 PM English Service</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>             7:00 PM            Finance Team</p>	<p><b>26</b>             10:00 AM            Bible Study             7:00 PM            Bible Study</p>	<p><b>27</b>             7:00 PM            Congregation Council</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b>             9:00 AM            German School Book Sale @LMHS             9:30 AM            Immanuel German School             7:00 PM            Community Bingo</p>
<p><b>30</b>   <b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>             9:30 AM English Service            11:00 AM German Service</p>	<p><i>On Deck:</i>            Lutheran Night at the Phillies, Saturday, May 20 at 4:05 PM against the Chicago Cubs.  <b>Go to <a href="http://www.phillies.com/lutheran">www.phillies.com/lutheran</a>. Use the password: LUTHERAN.</b></p>					