

Immanuel Newsletter

GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

AUGUST 2023

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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CONNECTING WITH GOD

From Pastor Hahn:

My dear Immanuel church family,

When I was earning my master's degree at Harvard University a few decades ago, I had the privilege of studying with three internationally renowned leaders in the field of moral and ego development.

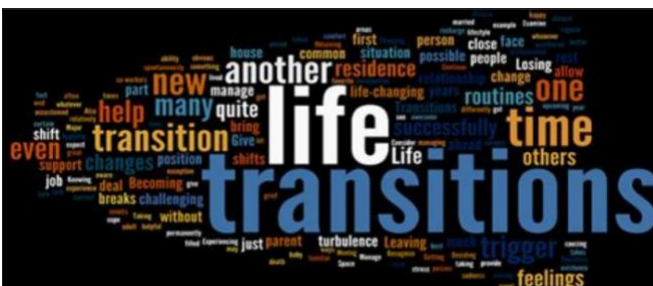


Based on their research, Professors Kohlberg, Gilligan, and Kegan taught that the moral and ego development of people goes through predictable sequential stages, although not all people reach all the stages.

I was able to pursue

doctoral studies at Emory University in Atlanta with Professor James Fowler who had pioneered a stage model of faith development. His research and publications earned him an international reputation and guided the writing of Sunday School curricula and adult faith learning materials for decades.

These models of human and faith development following sequential stages were appealing to many people at the time because of the “predictability factor.” Once a person had figured out what stage of development he or she was in, the next stage was clear. No surprises of what was to come. Or so it seemed.



However, alongside the best-sellers on human, moral, and faith development, a very different book quietly became a bestseller. It sold millions

and received both a 25 year and a 40 year anniversary update. The book is William Bridges book on “Transitions.”

The appeal of Bridges’ writing was its focus on what happens between stages of development, what happens when people are on spiritual, moral, cognitive, or related journeys. When people are in motion physically, emotionally, or spiritually. When the old and familiar is no longer the solid anchor and when what’s next and new isn’t quite clear.

You and I and the Immanuel congregation are no strangers to transitions. I venture to say that all of us have experienced at least a couple of them. Some of us may just have finished a transition. Others are in the middle of one. And still others are about to begin a transition. The insights of Wm. Bridges might be helpful.



However, as people of faith we might want to turn first to our Holy Scriptures. Two promises come to mind: “*I may walk (transition) through valleys as dark as death, but I won’t be afraid. You are with me.*” (Psalm 23:4, CEV).

And the words of Jesus: “*I am with you always, even until the end of the world.*” (Matthew 28:20b, CEV.)

May God bless all our transitions with His Grace and Mercy.

God’s Peace,
Pastor Hahn



Ökumenische Andacht auf Zugspitze Requiem für "sterbenden" Gletscher

Ein ökumenisches "Requiem für den Zugspitzgletscher" hielten die Kirchen in Garmisch-Partenkirchen am Dienstag, den 25. Juli. Das Requiem für den Zugspitzgletscher begann um 12 Uhr mit einer Andacht in der Kapelle Mariä Heimsuchung auf dem Zugspitzplatt (Nähe Sonnalpin). Im Anschluss ging die Gemeinde zu den Resten des Schneeferners. Wissenschaftler informierten über die Situation am Gletscher, bevor er ausgesegnet wurde.



Der evangelische Pfarrer Christian Guenther steht auf dem Zugspitzplatt bei Grainau (Bayern) vor der Kapelle Maria Heimsuchung.

Sterbende zu begleiten, sei eine Kernaufgabe von Kirche, sagte Pfarrerin Uli Wilhelm dem Evangelischen Pressedienst. "Und der Gletscher auf der Zugspitze ist zweifellos ein solcher."

Um auf die konkreten Folgen der Erderwärmung aufmerksam zu machen, werde man den Gletscher nach einer Andacht aussegnen. Neben den Teams der Ortskirchen seien auch Wissenschaftler der Umweltforschungsstation "Schneefernerhaus" beteiligt. Die Zugspitze ist mit 2.962 Metern über Null der höchste Berg Deutschlands.

Der südliche Schneeferner auf dem Zugspitzplatt sei durch die Rekordsommer der letzten Jahre so stark geschrumpft, dass er seinen Status als "Gletscher" bereits verloren habe. "Ein Gletscher wächst von oben neu nach, er transportiert das Eis nach unten und taut dort ab", erläuterte Wilhelm.

All das sei beim südlichen Gletscher nicht mehr gegeben.

Der nördliche Schneeferner werde ebenfalls bald kein Gletscher mehr sein. "Wissenschaftler betonen, dass die Menschheit längst das Knowhow hat, um den Klimawandel zu begrenzen - wir beten dafür, dass sie sich jetzt entschließt, das endlich zu machen", sagte Wilhelm.

Mehr bei evangelisch.de

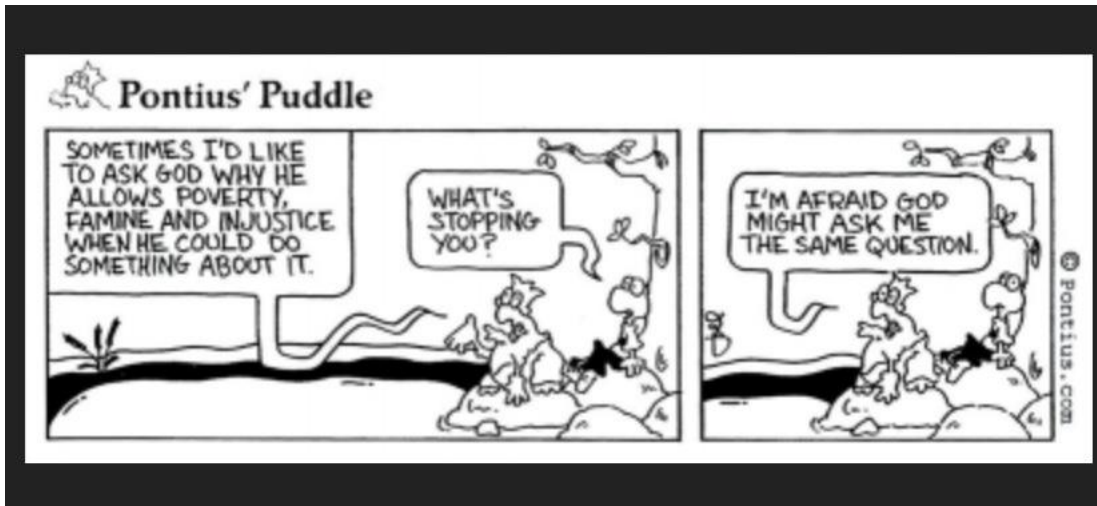
Der Schneeferner ist ein Gletscher in den Bayerischen Alpen. Er befindet sich auf dem Zugspitzplatt, einer von West nach Ost abfallenden Hochfläche südlich des Zugspitzgipfels, die den Talschluss des Reintals bildet. Die Schmelzwasser des Gletschers versickern in der verkarsteten Hochfläche und treten im Reintal wieder an die Oberfläche, wo sie die Partnach speisen. Der Schneeferner ist einer der nördlichsten Gletscher der Alpen.



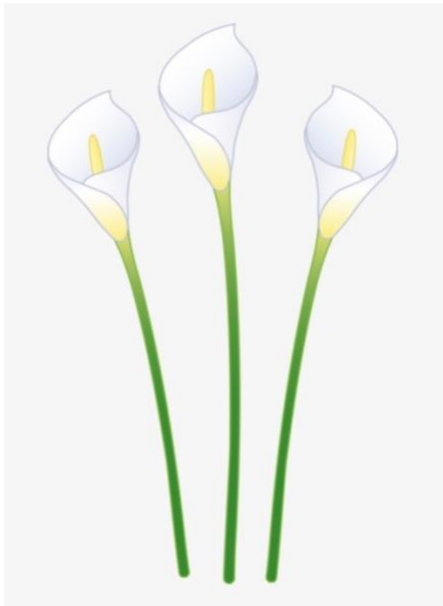
Die globale Erwärmung hat dazu geführt, dass auf der Zugspitze seit 1990 durchweg überdurchschnittliche Sommertemperaturen zu beobachten waren. Schädlich für die Gletscher sind dabei vor allem die dadurch immer seltener werdenden sommerlichen Schneefälle.... Bis 2003 schmolzen jährlich im Durchschnitt etwa 80 cm Eis. Bei anhaltender Schmelze wären die Gletscher auf dem Zugspitzplatt irgendwann vor 2030 verschwunden.

Mehr bei wikipedia.de

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS



IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Nancy Scholtz**, who joined The Church Triumphant on July 24. Funeral services were held on July 29. Please keep Nancy's family and friends in your prayers.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Herta Clements**, who recently joined The Church Triumphant. Please continue to keep Herta's family and friends in your prayers.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Hilda Feuchter**, who joined The Church Triumphant on July 2. Please continue to pray for Hilda's friends and family.



Join us for another movie night this summer!

Friday, August 18

Spread the word! Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

More details to come.



The Member Care Team is asking everyone at Immanuel to wear a name tag on Sunday morning. A team member will meet you at the door and provide you with a name tag.

Who knows? You may finally get to know the names of a few people whose faces you recognize but whose names you don't know or keep forgetting. Everyone wins!

Thanks for supporting this ministry of your Member Care Team.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



As Christians, we are called to seek justice and to care for those experiencing hunger and poverty, and churches are especially important in telling the story of hunger and fostering change.

bread.org

Dear Friends at Immanuel Lutheran Church,

What a blessing you have been to the people who come to Somerton Interfaith Food Bank. Your donation of food on 7/10/23 was an answer to prayer. We had to recently close one day because we didn't have enough food. All that was donated will be used. THANK YOU AGAIN. God Bless You All who helped provide food for our Somerton neighbors.

*Doreen Conway
Treasurer & Volunteer*

During August, help us maintain our support for the food bank. Please bring nonperishable food donations with you to worship on Sundays. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and your generosity is immediately felt by our neighbors in need.



Christmas-at-Sea

A Holiday Initiative of



Seafarers International House



This August, our congregation will be collecting money to support Seafarers' Christmas-At-Sea. Christmas-At-Sea delivers satchels filled with gifts to seafarers who will not be home with their loved ones for Christmas.

To make a donation, write a check to Immanuel Lutheran Church, with Seafarers on the memo line. As always, donations may also be made online at www.ImmanuelPhilly.org.



Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

Thank you for your generous gift of \$2,510.00 to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS).

Because of your generous stewardship, we can continue to provide much-needed help to refugee and migrant children and families. Through affiliate partnerships and direct service, grassroots mobilization, and advocacy, we are:

- continuing support to our new neighbors from Afghanistan;
- standing in solidarity with our Ukrainian neighbors and offering essential services to those who have arrived;
- supporting unaccompanied children and reunifying them with their families; and
- welcoming refugees in over 50 cities through our growing national affiliate network.

(Our recent gift was part of LIRS matching gift campaign for World Refugee Day. Our contribution will be doubled.)

Mark your calendar—returning Saturday, September 30, 2023

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Yes, we are looking forward to a Linus Gathering and having you join us. Everyone welcome – if you would like to learn to knit, or crochet, or maybe have a problem with your craft, please do not hesitate to join us. Also, help is needed to sew on Linus labels or help tie fleece blankets.



Project ♥ Linus

For information contact – Barbara Hannon or Alma Dallas



Immanuel Church will be participating in Bosco's largest annual fundraising event, **Friends Helping Friends**. During this **one-day in-store only event**, Bosco's offers its biggest sale of the year, 25% OFF* its Lowest Sale Prices. To access this exclusive event, customers receive a Shopping Pass after donating \$5 to Immanuel and we **keep 100% of the Shopping Pass donation proceeds!**

Details of the 2023 Friends Helping Friends Event are as follows:

- **How:** Customers donate \$5 to a participating non-profit and receive a Shopping Pass.
- **Shopping Discount:** 25% OFF* Lowest Sale Prices
- **Date:** Wednesday, October 18th
- **Store Hours:** 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- **Where:** In-Store Only
- **Register to Win:** A \$100 Bosco's Gift Card (one winner per store)

Could you ask your family and friends if they are interested in supporting Immanuel by purchasing a Savings Pass? Their \$5.00 donation would be appreciated. **Please contact Chris Blankenhorn if you are interested in helping.** Thank you!

Help! German Teachers Needed

The Immanuel German School/ Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian Saturday school that has been teaching the German language and culture to children ages 4-18 and adults since 1975. Classes meet in the Lower Moreland High School in Huntingdon Valley, PA, Saturday mornings from 9:30 until noon for 30 weeks beginning September 9, 2023, and ending early May 2024. Current salary is \$120 per Saturday. For more information about the school, please visit our website: www.igsphilly.org

If you are interested in joining our faculty, *or would like to be placed on our substitute teacher list*, please contact Dr. Del Hausman, Principal, at principal@igsphilly.org

AUGUST 2023

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Summer Worship at Immanuel:

The theme for this summer is “Attitude is Your Paintbrush - It Colors Every Situation.”

Each Sunday we will address Christian attitudes centered on the love and hope of Jesus Christ that give us strength for the living of these days.

		1 12:00 PM Lunch and a Movie 7:00 PM Evangelism Team	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Commitment and Ownership</i> 10:15 AM Combined Service <i>with Holy Communion</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Compassion</i> 10:15 AM Combined Service	14	15	16	17	18 Movie Night	19
20 <i>Faith and Trust</i> 10:15 AM Combined Service	21 Newsletter Deadline	22 7:00 PM Finance Team	23	24	25	26
27 <i>Hope and Joy</i> 10:15 AM Combined Service	28	29	30	31 7:00 PM Congregation Council		



Indoor Yard Sale
on the Immanuel campus

Saturday, September 23