

# FEBRUARY 2023

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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## **Immanuel Newsletter** **GOD'S WORK - OUR HANDS**



### **SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY** **FEBRUARY 12**

Bring cans of soup for donation  
to the local food bank!

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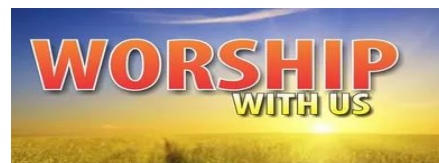
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Come worship with us (in-person,  
online, or on the telephone).

Check out our worship schedule for  
February (page 4) and look ahead to  
Lent (page 8).

# CONNECTING WITH GOD

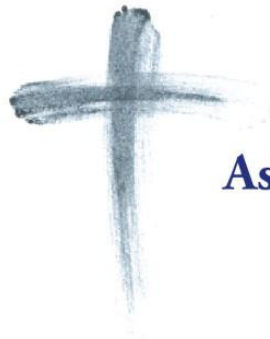
## From Pastor Hahn:

My dear Immanuel church family:

**It seems to me** that time is flying. Christmas seems so long ago. We seem to be speeding through January. Around the corner, in the middle of February, we see Valentine's Day.

**A little further down road**, on February 22, is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent.

**The traditional view of Lent** conveys that Lent is marked by the spiritual practice of "giving up something." (Frequently what is given up is chocolate, TV, alcohol, gossip, coffee, etc.)



## Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

**A more recent approach** to the spiritual practices in Lent is "adding something" that is spiritually meaningful and growth enhancing.

**A good summary of spiritual practices** that would be good to add during Lent is the word "PoWeRSuRGe." Pastor Mike Foss used each capital letter to represent a classic spiritual practice:

- P** is for "pray daily."
- W** is for "worship weekly."
- R** is "read the Bible daily."
- S** is for "serve regularly."
- R** is for "relate to other Christians regularly."
- G** is for "give generously."

**You may recognize these practices** as the basics of the Christian life, and you may want to say: "Is this not what we are supposed to be doing as Jesus' followers anyway?" And you are correct. Those practices are the foundation for a spiritually sound life of a Christ-follower.

**However, for most Christians**, the life of faith and following Jesus has an "ebb-and-flow" quality. Sometimes, it all comes together. Many times, unfortunately, there is room for improvement.

**That is precisely where** the season of Lent becomes a blessing: Lent invites us to use the limited time of the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter (not counting Sundays) to become more intentional and active in one or two or maybe three practices of the Christian life.

**I will try to make resources**, inspiration, and reminders available to you throughout Lent to help you with getting better at the PoWeRSuRGe practice or practices of your choice.



God's Peace,  
Pastor Hahn

*Eine Einladung zur Fastenzeit von Ralf Meister, Landesbischof in Hannover und Botschafter der Aktion „7 Wochen Ohne“*

Liebe Mitfastende,

**Drei Dinge sind uns aus dem Paradies geblieben:** Die Sterne der Nacht, die Blumen des Tages und die Augen der Kinder. Auch wenn umstritten ist, ob der Dichter und Philosoph Dante Alighieri (1265–1321) dies wirklich so schrieb: Die Welt ist voller Schönheit. Doch fällt es angesichts der aktuellen Krisen schwer, das zu sehen.

**In dunklen Zeiten braucht es Licht,** um den Mut nicht zu verlieren. Die Fastenaktion „7 Wochen Ohne“ der evangelischen Kirche steht deshalb in diesem Jahr unter dem Motto **„Leuchten! Sieben Wochen ohne Verzagtheit“**. Wir laden Sie ein, von Aschermittwoch bis Ostern mit uns unterwegs zu sein. Jede Woche der Fastenzeit steht unter einem speziellen Motto, und ihr ist jeweils eine Bibelstelle zugeordnet.

**In den sieben Fastenwochen** geht es nicht allein um innere Erleuchtung, sondern auch um die Ausstrahlung auf andere. Werden wir unser Licht auch anderen schenken? Werden wir Helligkeit bringen? Mit unseren Worten, Gesten, unserem Tun?

**Die Fastenzeit ist kein Verzicht** um des Verzichts willen. Sie führt uns Tag für Tag zu neuen Erfahrungen. Diese Zeit lässt uns mit einem anderen Blick auf die Welt schauen.

### **Die Wochenthemen** Woche 1: Licht an!



**„Gott sprach: Es werde Licht. Und es ward Licht.“** (Genesis 1,1–5). Das geschieht immer wieder neu. Licht und Dunkelheit, Tag und Nacht – beides hat seinen Platz, und dieses Wechselspiel bestimmt unser Leben. Die Finsternis aber dauert nicht für immer.

### Woche 2: Keine Angst (1 Samuel 17,4-11)



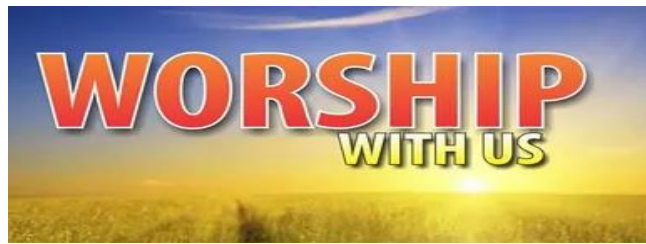
**Keine Angst vor den Ängsten!** Wir schauen uns in Ruhe an, was uns verzagen lässt. Manches wird dabei kleiner. Manches bleibt groß und furchterregend wie der Riese Goliath. Aber auch dieser ist nicht unbesiegbar, wie wir wissen. Angst und Mut gehören zusammen.

### Woche 3: Was mich trägt



**„Gott segne dich und behüte dich.“** (Numeri 6,24-26). Der aaronitische Segen vermittelt Geborgenheit. Leuchtende Worte, die mich tragen und mir Kraft geben. Die dritte Fastenwoche ist den Worten, Taten, Menschen gewidmet, die Lichtquellen für mich sind.

Die weiteren Themen stellen wir im nächsten Gemeindebrief vor. – *For an English translation, please contact Pastor Hahn.*



## Sunday Worship

**February 5—**

**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

10:15 AM Combined Service\*  
6:30 PM English Service (Online  
and telephone ONLY)

**February 12—**

**Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**

***Soup-er Bowl Sunday***

9:30 AM English Service  
11:00 AM German Service

**February 19—**

**Transfiguration of Our Lord**

9:30 AM English Service\*  
11:00 AM German Service\*  
6:30 PM English Service (Online  
and telephone ONLY)

**February 26—**

**First Sunday in Lent**

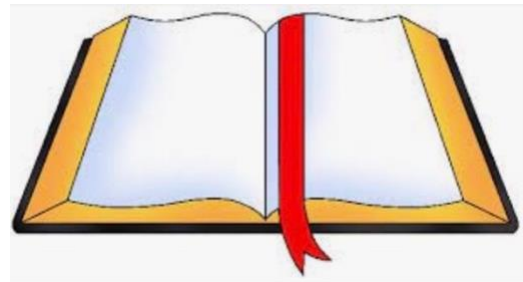
9:30 AM English Service  
11:00 AM German Service

*\*Holy Communion*

**February 22—Ash Wednesday**

11:11 AM Bilingual Worship Service  
*followed by a light lunch*

7:00 PM Bilingual Worship Service  
*preceded by a light supper at 6:00 PM*



**February 28—*Passionsandacht***

7:30 PM

Wir laden zu gemeinsamen  
Fastenandachten mit anderen DELKINA-  
Gemeinden ein.

Online über Zoom oder Telefon auf  
DEUTSCH.

GERMAN Lenten worship  
with DELKINA congregations  
(via Zoom and telephone).

# CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

**Fastnacht/Fat Tuesday**  
**Tuesday, February 21**  
**1:30-3:30 PM**

The Member Care Team invites you to a “Social Time” with Bingo and donuts to celebrate the end of the “carnival season” before the start of Lent the next day (Ash Wednesday).



## IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Carolyn Onimus**, who joined The Church Triumphant on January 17. Funeral services were held on January 26. Please keep Carolyn’s family and friends in your prayers.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to Ellen Ragan and family on the death of Ellen’s brother, **Robert Sweeney**. Please keep Robert’s family and friends in your prayers.

# Living Lutheran



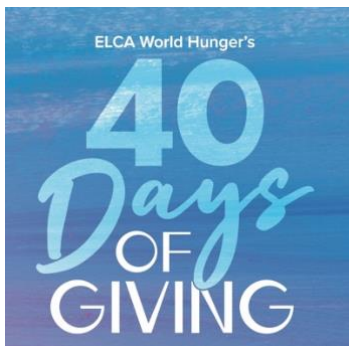
Many of our members and friends have been receiving **Living Lutheran** for several years. It continues to bring local, national, and international information to us, the ELCA members.

**It is time for us to renew our subscriptions.** If you do not have a subscription, you can also sign up now. The cost is **only \$9.00 for a year.** (The price is a special group rate. An individual subscription normally is \$19.95.) The magazine is mailed directly to your home.

**Please make out a separate check to Immanuel Lutheran Church for \$9.00 and bring or mail it to the church campus. Please write on the memo line: Living Lutheran.**

For more information, contact Barbara Hannon.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

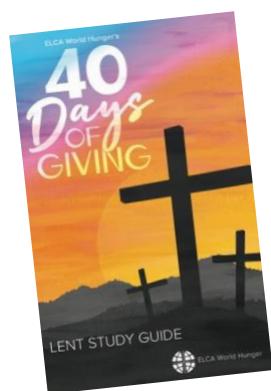


*Info courtesy of elca.org*

Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. Amid our own dependence on God, we know by faith that God is even now at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world.

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving invites us to be part of that work and to bear witness to it with partners, companions, friends, and neighbors.

**We invite you to set a giving goal for ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving.** Contributions can be made by writing a check to Immanuel Lutheran Church, with ELCA World Hunger on the memo line.



ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving 2023 Lenten Study Guide and Lent Calendar are available to download:

<https://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger#Seasonal>

Hard copies have also been ordered and will be available soon!



**Soup-er Bowl Sunday**  
Sunday, February 12



*Let's help tackle hunger together!*

Before the big game at night, come to worship in the morning with cans of soup. Donate one or a whole bunch! The soup will be given to the food bank.

Dear Pastor Norbert,

Thank you for supporting our mission to seafarers and immigrants during these unprecedented times. For your tax records, we gratefully acknowledge the following charitable contribution(s) in 2022 per our records:

Date	Gift Amount	Purpose
10/18/2022	\$940.00	Christmas at Sea

**Total:** \$940.00



**Seafarers International House**  
*Harbor of Hospitality*

123 East 15th Street  
New York, NY 10003  
Phone: (212) 677-4800  
[www.sihnyc.org](http://www.sihnyc.org)



*I want to thank all who remembered me during my recent hospital stay and recovery, with cards, good wishes, phone calls, and prayers. I am very grateful.*

-Edith Toth

Please keep the members and friends of Immanuel in your prayers, especially those who are homebound or are being cared for in special facilities:

Armin Ast  
Gertrude Augenbaugh  
David Cothren  
Ursula Garden  
Nancy Heilemann  
Erwin Koch  
Anna Kohut



Ruth Kosempel  
Laura Krell  
Barbara Meissner  
Emil Sim  
Elisabeth Suttmann  
Edith Toth  
Hannelore Vollrath

# FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>*Please Note:</b></p> <p>The 6:30 PM English Service on February 5 and 19 is available only through Zoom (online or telephone).</p>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
			10:00 AM Bible Study  7:00 PM Bible Study	9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference		9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b>  10:15 AM Combined Service with Holy Communion  6:30 PM English Service*		1:30 PM Member Care Team  7:00 PM Evangelism Team	10:00 AM Bible Study  7:00 PM Bible Study			9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</b>  9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service  <i>Soup-er Bowl Sunday</i>		<b>Valentine's Day</b>	10:00 AM Bible Study  7:00 PM Bible Study	9:30 AM Deans Meeting		9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>  9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service <i>Both services with Holy Communion</i>  6:30 PM English Service*	7:00 PM Congregation Council	<b>Fastnacht</b>  1:30 PM Fat Tuesday Celebration	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>  11:11 AM Bilingual Service  7:00 PM Bilingual Service			9:30 AM Immanuel German School
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Sunday, March 5</b> 10:30 AM Combined Worship with Holy Communion <b>Followed by Annual Church Meeting</b>			
<b>First Sunday in Lent</b>  9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service		7:30 PM <i>Passionsandacht</i>				



**Looking Ahead:** Wednesdays in March (starting March 1)  
**Join us for Mid-Week Lenten Bible Study and Worship**  
 10:00 AM Lenten Bible Study  
 11:11 AM Lenten Worship  
*Followed by a light lunch*