

MAY 2022

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

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May Worship Schedule

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

6:30 PM English Service
(5/1 and 5/15)

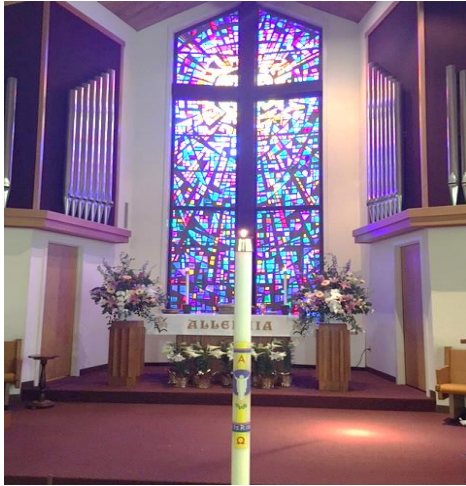
Holy Communion
1st and 3rd Sundays

CONNECTING WITH GOD

From Pastor Hahn

My dear church family, fellow crew members of I.H.S. Immanuel,

If Easter is all about God doing a “new thing”—beginning with very first Easter and ever since—then that was certainly true on Easter Sunday at Immanuel.



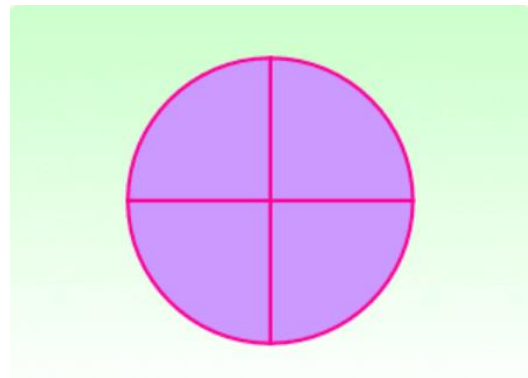
Despite ongoing Covid concerns (and the return of an indoor mask mandate for Philadelphia), worries about the events in Ukraine and their impact on us, and challenges in personal lives, there was something special in the air on Easter Sunday at Immanuel.

A total of 92 individuals worshipped in the beautifully decorated nave on the Immanuel campus. **Another 29 households** were dialed into the services either by computer or telephone. (I know the sound quality is not quite 100%, but we are working on it! Thanks for your patience and understanding.)

The “new thing” that I see God doing at Immanuel is getting our congregation to the “new normal,” which is being Christ’s church and doing Christ’s work in the “post pandemic environment.” Things will be very different in the coming years in society and culture.

For you and me and for our Immanuel church family this means that we need “all hands on deck.” Everyone’s help will be needed in some way. This should be no surprise, as you and I were called to serving God when we were baptized. We said “yes” to that when we affirmed/confirmed our Baptism at the Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation and in the promises we made when we joined Immanuel.

To make transparent where and how help is needed, the congregation council has begun implanting a new organizational structure called “fractaling.” The word comes from the Latin words “frangere” and “fractus” and it roughly means “dividing into equal parts.” Applied to our organizational ministry and mission structure this means that each of our ministries areas will be divided into four sub-areas. If a sub-area is too big and has too much work, then it will sub-divided (“fractaled”) again into four sub-areas. And so on.



Please read more on page 4. To make this work will take some time but I look forward to seeing many familiar and new faces helping out with doing God’s work at Immanuel and beyond.

God’s Peace,
Pastor Hahn

Gedanken zu Ostern und zur Osterzeit

Von Pfarrer Norbert Busch

Viele Menschen treibt zeitweise ein scheinbar nicht zu stoppender Ehrgeiz um nach dem Motto: immer schneller, immer höher, immer weiter, immer größer, immer mehr. Wir Menschen werden manchmal getrieben von der Gier nach mehr Reichtum, mehr Macht, mehr Lust, mehr Haben - wollen, koste es, was es wolle, gar das Leben vieler Menschen, die ausgebeutet werden, damit einige Wenige ... immer mehr und mehr haben und gut leben können.

Die altbekannte biblische Geschichte vom Turmbau zu Babel ist ein Beispiel für die Hybris, den Größenwahn des Menschen.



Doch wer bewahrt die Menschen, auch dich und mich davor, den Lebenspuls immer rastloser, immer ruheloser, immer schneller schlagen zu lassen? Wer oder was sorgt bei uns für neue Bodenhaftung, wenn wir allzu sehr abgehoben sind?

Bei einem Flugzeug ist dies auf den ersten Blick einfacher. Nachdem es abgehoben ist und seinen Flug beendet hat, kommt es allemal wieder auf die Erde zurück.

Doch das Landen – so sagen die Fachleute – ist schwieriger als das Abheben. Um den schnellen Flug zu verlangsamen, fährt der Kapitän kurz vor der Landung Klappen an den Flügeln aus. Diese Klappen erhöhen den Luftwiderstand und bremsen das Flugzeug auf ca. 230 Stundenkilometer ab.

Damit jedoch ein Überschallflugzeug nach der ersten Berührung mit der Landebahn nicht über diese hinauschießt und zerschellt, werden die Triebwerke

auf Umkehrschub geschaltet. Nur wenn die Triebwerke genau entgegengesetzt arbeiten als beim Starten, ist es möglich, ein tonnenschweres Flugzeug wieder heil auf die Erde zu bringen.

Doch was hat das alles mit Ostern zu tun?

Ostern ist der Umkehrschub Gottes für die Menschheit, damit diese in Ihrer Hybris des immer höher hinaus nicht eines Tages wie aus allen Wolken

fallen und am Boden zerschellen.

Ostern ist der Umkehrschub Gottes gegen die Vergötterung der Diesseitigkeit mit all ihren Auswüchsen, die dem Leben mehr schaden als das sie nützen.

Das Hören auf Gottes Wort, der Empfang der Sakramente, das persönliche Beten, die Nächstenliebe—alle erhöhen

den „Luftwiderstand“ gegen den menschlich-weltlichen Trend.

Durch Gottes gnädiges Eingreifen stoppt Ostern das Rasen der Menschheit auf den Abgrund zu. Durch die Auferweckung seines Sohnes aus dem Grab beginnt der unergründliche und unbegreifliche Gott

eine neue Schöpfung. An dieser neuen Schöpfung erhielten wir im Sakrament der Taufe Anteil.



Wenn sie in den nächsten Tagen ein Flugzeug am Himmel sehen oder über den Wolken hören, mag sie dies an Ostern, den

Umkehrschub Gottes für alle Menschen erinnern. Dieses gläubige Erinnern wird ihnen und allen Menschen Kraft und Trost schenken wo auch immer und in welcher Lage sie sich befinden.

Auszüge aus einer Ostermeditation. *For an English translation contact Pastor Hahn.*

A New Organizational Structure for Immanuel's Ministry and Mission

The Immanuel congregation and the congregational leadership face the task of adjusting to the societal, cultural, and religious changes of the last five to ten years. Initially, much of this change was slow and under the radar, but the Covid-19 pandemic has amplified them and put them on steroids. As our society enters a post-pandemic "new normal," organizations, including churches, need to make adjustments.

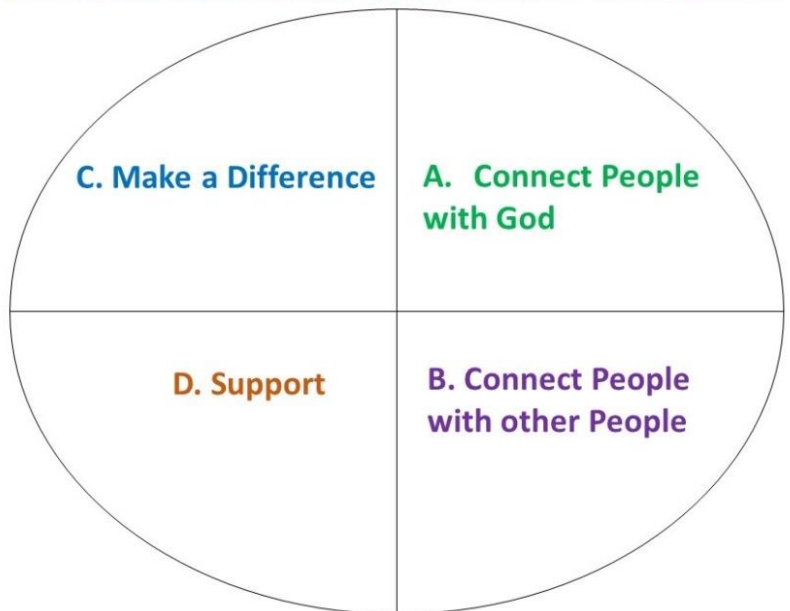
To remain effective in ministry and mission in this "new normal" Immanuel's organizational structure needs to be leaner and more transparent. Towards that end, the Congregation Council is pursuing a model called "fractaling" in which each mission area and all ministry tasks are divided into four sections ("fractals").

In this issue, we are introducing to you the four ministry areas (picture on the top): A. Connecting people with God. B. Connecting people with other people. C. Making a difference. (These reflect our mission statement.) D. Support.

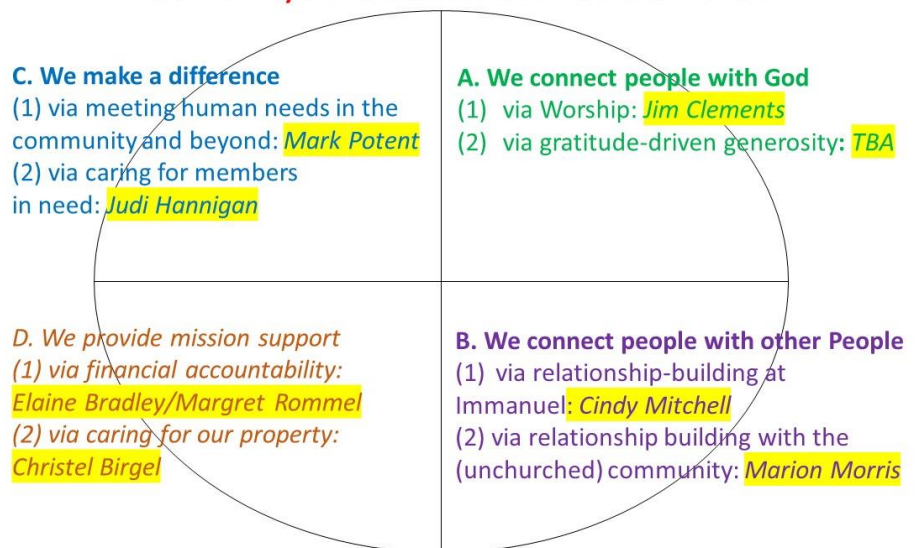
The picture on the bottom indicates how each of those four mission areas consists of two ministry areas. It also indicates which council member is the contact and lead person in that area.

This is a new model, and it will take some time to get it fully into place and completely right. But it is a promising model. Please add the council members and council president, Christine Blankenhorn, in your prayers. And if you have gifts, skills, passions, or an interest to serve in any of those ministry areas, contact the appropriate council member.

Immanuel's mission and ministry is "fractaled" into four areas



Each ministry area is anchored with one council member!



CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS™

By BILL KEANE



Say a prayer and show appreciation on the following May holidays:

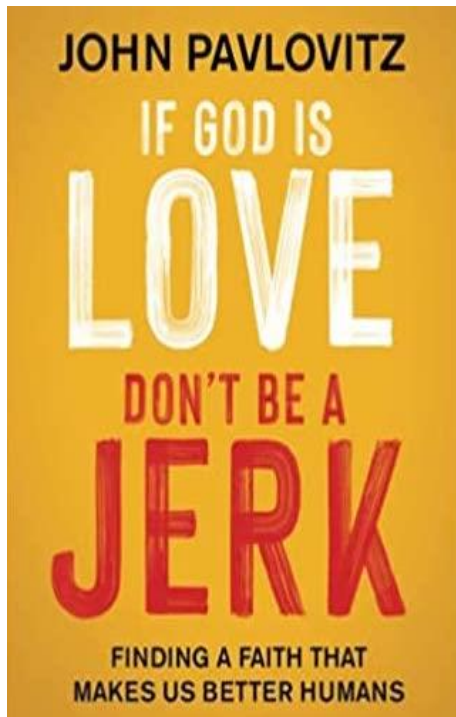
May 1—School Principals' Day
May 3—Teacher's Day
May 6—Nurses' Day
May 8—Mother's Day
May 9—Third Shift Workers' Day
May 11—Receptionists' Day
May 21—Waitstaff Day

Make a date with a friend to celebrate these quirky May holidays:

May 1—Lemonade Day
May 3—Garden Meditation Day
May 13—Apple Pie Day
May 14—Dance Like a Chicken Day
May 15—Chocolate Chip Day
May 15—Pizza Party Day
May 19—World Plant a Vegetable Garden Day
May 20—Pick Strawberries Day
May 24—Scavenger Hunt Day
May 26—Paper Airplane Day
May 28—Burger Day



Faith Development Opportunities in May



Wednesday evenings on Zoom beginning May 4 at 7:00PM

This book will ask you to take a good, honest look at how the beliefs you hold can shape your relationships with God and your fellow humans—and to make sure that love has the last, loudest word.

Join us as we read and discuss this inspiring and witty book that reminds us of what Christianity is supposed to be about.

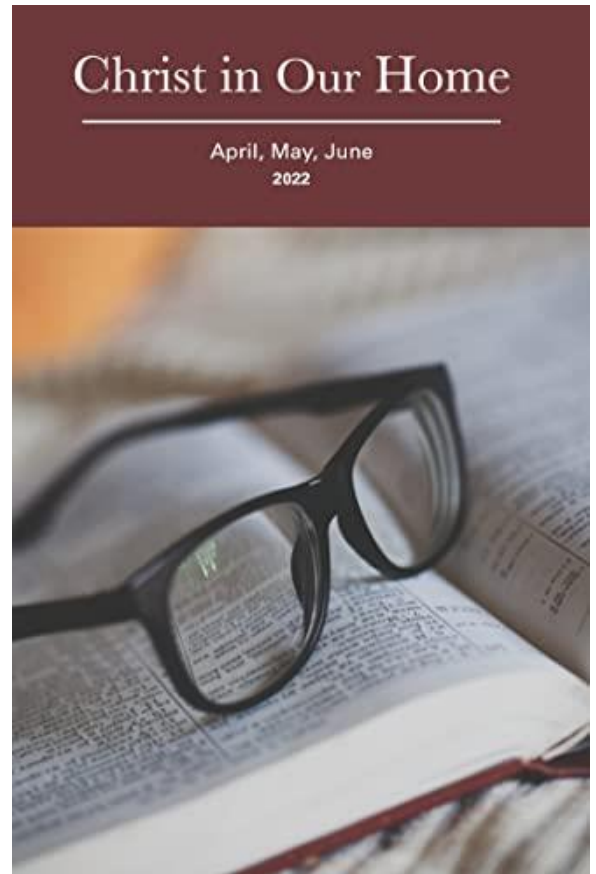
Daily Devotions: A quick and easy spiritual snack!

If you do not have the inclination or the time for a solid spiritual meal each day, then spending a few minutes each day with this devotional book is for you. Each day offers a Bible verse, a personal commentary or meditation, a suggested prayer concern, and a unique prayer. It inspires, comforts, guides, and more.

Contact Barbara Hannon for a free copy.

Christ in Our Home Discussing Daily Devotions

Join others in discussing what you read.
Fridays at 2:00 PM





Food Bank
Donations



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16, 2022
Immanuel's Campus



Raffle Winners:

Adults—
Al M.
Joqueline B.

Children—
Grace L.
Charlotte M.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



A Month of Home Essentials for Feast of Justice

Feast of Justice is a charitable, faith-based non-profit organization whose mission is addressing hunger, meeting needs, and inspiring hope as they work toward abundant justice in Northeast Philadelphia and beyond.

They are blessed to have a full and constant inventory of food, so they have made this "The Year of Home Essentials."

Feast of Justice is asking for donations of non-food items needed by the households they serve.

Please join Immanuel in "A Month of Home Essentials" by making a donation from the listed items below. **Bring donations to the church campus Sundays during May or call the church office (at 215-464-1540) to schedule a drop-off time.**

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Mouthwash
Dental Floss
Denture Tablets
Shampoo
Conditioner
Soap
Body Wash
Hand Soap
Lotions
Deodorant
Shaving Cream
Disposable Razors
Sunscreen
Band Aids
Antiseptic



HOUSEHOLD

Paper Towels
Zip Lock Bags
Aluminum Foil
Plastic Wrap
Tissues
Toilet Paper
Dish Soap
Laundry Detergent
Fabric Softener
All Purpose Clean
Cleaning Wipes
Window Cleaner
Sponges





Thank you to everyone who donated Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you for your contributions to Lutheran World Relief to aid Ukrainian refugees.

Thank you for your Lenten donations in support of ELCA World Hunger.

Thank you for contributions to our Diapers and Wipes Drive to benefit Cradles to Crayons.



April 6, 2022

Aloe my Friends

Dear Friends at Immanuel,

Thank you for the many cards which you have sent to me, and for the calls received. They, along with your kind words of comfort and encouragement, have been a real blessing to me and to my family as well.

Thank you, especially, for your prayers for each of us during this health challenge.

Gratefully,

Nancy Scholtz

Dear Friends at Immanuel,

Thank you for the many cards which you have sent to me, and for the calls received. They, along with your kind words of comfort and encouragement, have been a real blessing to me and to my family as well.

Thank you, especially, for your prayers for each of us during this health challenge.

Gratefully,

Nancy Scholtz

Thrivent Choice

Please remember to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to Immanuel Church (or another charity of your choice.) You can do this by:

- Going online to www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice
- Calling 800-847-4836, and pressing option 5

Immanuel Church needs your help in ensuring its future ministry. Please include your church in your will. You may want to at least tithe (give 10%) of your estate to the Lord. Remember to include the church's name and address, along with the amount of your bequest. Should you wish, Pastor Hahn will provide you with the name of a caring and capable lawyer who can assist you.

**Immanuel German School welcomes first inductees into Delta Epsilon Phi,
the National German Honor Society for High School students.**



The Immanuel German School/Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia was proud to welcome ten outstanding students of German into the Marianne Haug Chapter of Delta Epsilon Phi, the National German Honor Society for high school students of German. The induction ceremony was held on Saturday, March 26, in Lower Moreland High School.

As Principal Dr. Del Hausman noted, the school was thrilled to be able to form a chapter of Delta Epsilon Phi, the national Honor Society for High School Students of German, which recognizes the outstanding academic achievement of learners of this language. As graduating seniors know, this is a significant achievement and will be an important part of their resumes and college applications.



The National German Honor Society was founded in 1968 by Käthe Wilson to reward scholastic achievement in the study of German and to promote interest in the study of the German language, literature, and civilization. However, Käthe Wilson is not just the founder of the National German Honor Society, there's also a Käthe Wilson Scholarship for summer study in Germany and, thus, we were able to proudly recognized Alegria P., the recipient of this year's Käthe Wilson Scholarship as well as newly inducted member of Delta Epsilon Phi.

The Immanuel German School was originally founded in 1975 by Marianne Haug and her husband, Dr. Hans Haug. Hence, it was altogether fitting that our students be inducted into the **Marianne Haug Chapter of Delta Epsilon Phi**.

We are proud to welcome the first inductees into the Marianne Haug Chapter of Delta Epsilon Phi:

Bill
Lucas
Duncan
Lillian
Hannah

Christopher
Mae
Zoe
Alegria
Daniel



As you may know, back when the school was founded, classes were held in the Sunday school rooms of Immanuel Lutheran Church. In time, the school outgrew the space available in the church and we moved to Lower Moreland High School. Students began to participate in the National German Exam (this year, 4 of the top 5 students in greater Philadelphia are from IGS), we became the only school in Philadelphia authorized to offer Advanced Placement German Language and Culture and the Deutsches Sprachdiplom—The German Language Diploma offered by the German KMK or Ministry of Education.



MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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PLEASE NOTE:

All services are simultaneously INDOOR and REMOTE.

Some Covid-19 safety precautions are still in place or encouraged.

Meetings will continue to be held through Zoom (online and telephone).

1 Third Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service All services with Holy Communion!	2	3 1:30 PM Member Care Team 7:00 PM Evangelism Team	4 7:00 PM Book Discussion	5 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference	6 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	7 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
8 Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service	9	10	11 7:00 PM Book Discussion	12 7:00 PM Lower Bucks Conference gathering for lay representatives and clergy at Advent Lutheran Church in Richboro	13 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	14
15 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service All services with Holy Communion! NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 7:00 PM Congregation Council	17 Election Day	18 7:00 PM Book Discussion	19 9:30 AM Deans Meeting	20 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	21
22 Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service	23	24 7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting	25 7:00 PM Book Discussion	26	27 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	28
29 Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service	30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	31 Tulsa Massacre Anniversary				