

Immanuel Newsletter

GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

AUGUST 2021

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*Connecting people with God and
with other people to make a difference!*
14100 WORTHINGTON RD.
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19116

Phone: 215-464-1540

www.ImmanuelPhilly.org

Email: Office@ImmanuelPhilly.org

INDOOR Worship ***Now with Holy Communion***

August 1

10:15 AM German Service

August 8

10:15 AM English Service

7:30 PM English

August 15

10:15 AM German Service

August 22

10:15 AM English Service

7:30 PM English

August 29

10:15 AM TBA Service

The Congregation Council has provided information and updated protocols for indoor worship in a separate mailing. Please review it before attending an indoor worship service. If you need a copy, please

Online Sunday Worship in August

9:19 AM English

11:11 AM German

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Movie Under the Stars **Friday, August 20**

8:00 PM

(Lawn access at 7:30 PM)

“E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial”

Enjoy a terrific and heart-warming story of friendship, hope, and resurrection with unusual heroes and surprising twists.



Bring a chair or a blanket, snacks, or a picnic and enjoy this delightful movie for all ages outdoors on our new SUPER BIG screen and with our new SUPER audio system.

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

14100 Worthington Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116

Telephone: 215-464-1540 FAX: 215-677-2433

E-mail: Office@ImmanuelPhilly.org

Websites: www.ImmanuelPhilly.org and www.HillHappenings.org

Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

Ministers:	Members and Friends of the Congregation		
Pastor:	Rev. Norbert F. Hahn, Ph.D.	215-464-1540	PastorHahnILC@gmail.com
Secretary:	Diane Burgess	215-464-1540	Office@ImmanuelPhilly.org
Council President:	Barbara Hannon	215-637-8478	

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING TIMES, LEADERS

(All meetings held thru ZOOM)

Bible/Devotional Study	Fridays	2:00 PM	Pastor Hahn
Choir	<i>On hiatus</i>		
Congregation Council	3 rd Monday	7:00 PM	Barbara Hannon
Christian Events Team	1 st Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eileen Szentjobi
Finance Team	4 th Tuesday	7:00 PM	TBA
Frauenverein	<i>On hiatus</i>		Marianne Haug
German Circle/Deutscher Kreis	<i>On hiatus</i>		Ruth Muggler
Girl Scouts	Wednesdays	7:00 PM	Nancy Smith
Hand Bell Choir	<i>On hiatus</i>		
Immanuel German School	Saturdays	9:30 AM	Dr. Del Hausman
Ladies' Guild	<i>On hiatus</i>		Barbara Hannon
Member Care Team	1 st Tuesday	1:30 PM	Judi Hannigan
Mutual Ministry Team	TBA		John Scholtz
Social Ministry Team	TBA		
Sunday School	<i>On hiatus</i>		Eileen Szentjobi
Worship Planning Team	TBA		
Youth Group	<i>On hiatus</i>		Chris Blankenhorn and Eileen Szentjobi

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF

Diane Burgess David W. Cook Pastor Norbert F. Hahn Marianne Haug

Send information or questions to Office@ImmanuelPhilly.org

Immanuel Church needs your help in ensuring its future ministry. Please include the 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.

CONNECTING WITH GOD

From Pastor Hahn

My dear Immanuel church family:

“God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!” That is one of the chants young Lutheran used to learn in Confirmation camp.

As people of God, we know this to be true. We believe it in our hearts, know it in our minds, and feel it in our souls. And, as people of faith, our trust and faith in God are not shaken when bad things happen to good people.

We remain steadfast because we know that pain, death, suffering, and injustice will not have the last word. Our God of life, our God of resurrection, new life, second chances, and new beginnings has the last word. The God of unconditional love and justice for all has the last word.

Admittedly, such convictions can be shattered when we are bombarded with images and news that show catastrophes—like the floods in Germany, Belgium, Austria, and Holland or the massive wildfires and serious drought in parts of the U.S. Those convictions are

challenged when pain and death become personal in our own households. Many of us deal with health challenges and the Camburn and Mitchell families mourn the loss of loved ones.

However, the good news, God’s news, is already discernible, even in pain, even in death, even in destruction.

For example, despite the occasional “disaster tourist” hoping to get a picture of the destruction, many ordinary Germans kicked into high gear with hands-on help, with donations of food, clothing, and money. They were loving their neighbors.

**God is good
all the time!**

Also, after years of either denying that climate change (global warming) is real and slow walking any meaningful national response to it, the Germans are, finally, waking up. They are beginning to realize that Nature, God’s Creation, cannot be used and abused without repercussions.

“Something must be done”, German leaders from all mainstream parties seem to agree now, “to slow down the warming of the earth. After all, there is NO Planet B.” It will be interesting to see if the Green Party will gain votes in the upcoming elections.

What I found remarkably interesting was the conversation around money. Clearly, responding to the aftermath of the flooding, – repairing, and rebuilding – will be awfully expensive. (Unfortunately, the human lives lost cannot be replaced, and they are priceless.)



But, repairing and rebuilding after a catastrophe is MORE expensive than investing in preventing them in the first place. According to one expert, every Euro that is NOT invested in prevention, i.e., actions that limit global warming, will lead to between two to eleven Euros of clean-up and rebuilding costs afterwards.

Speaking of action: Would it not be great if our congregation could send a significant donation of support to a Lutheran congregation in one of the affected areas in Germany?

Please pray about it! And if you feel moved to support this cause, please give an extra gift. Make your check out to *Immanuel Lutheran Church*; memo: *German floods* or give online. Thank you in advance.

Finally, pray that more leaders all over the world will begin to see, as clearly as the Germans, that big action in response to global warming is needed!

God’s Peace, Pastor Hahn

Die kleinen Sünden bestraft der liebe Gott sofort.—Wirklich?

Der Redakteur, Blogger, und Schriftsteller Frank Muchlinsky wurde einmal gefragt was er von dem Sprichwort "Kleine Sünden bestraft der liebe Gott sofort"? hält. Er antwortet darauf (siehe unten) und greift auch die Frage auf, ob wir "Für die Sünden in die Hölle kommen"? Erbauliches Lesen!

Die Redensart von den kleinen Sünden, die "der liebe Gott" anscheinend sofort bestraft, ist meiner Ansicht nach eine dumme Angewohnheit.

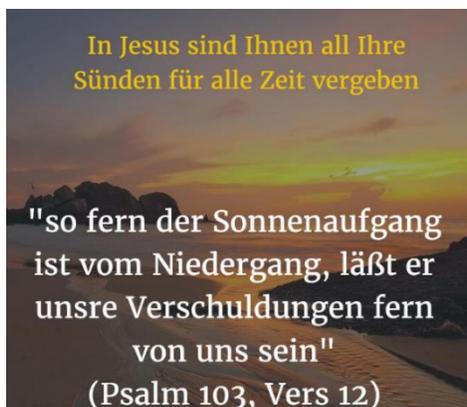
Man sagt diesen Satz doch meistens dann, wenn jemandem ein Missgeschick passiert. Und indem man das sagt, vermutet man, dass hinter dem, was da schiefgelaufen ist, eine böse Absicht steckte. Also zum Beispiel, wenn jemand einen Luftballon mit Wasser füllt und der platzt, bevor man ihn auf jemanden werfen kann, um man wird selbst nass. Aber steckte hinter dem Vorhaben, mit dem Ballon zu werfen, tatsächlich eine böse Absicht? Oder war es einfach ein harmloses Spiel?

Ich mag den häufigen Gebrauch des Wortes Sünde nicht. Wenn jemand die eigene Diät bricht und dabei sagt: "Heute sündige ich mal", hat das sehr wenig damit zu tun, was das Christentum unter Sünde versteht.

Eine Sünde zu begehen bedeutet, sich durch eine schlimme Tat absichtlich von Gott zu entfernen. Die erste Sünde, von der ausdrücklich in der Bibel steht, ist der Mord von Kain an seinem Bruder Abel. Über solche Kategorien reden wir.



Ich mag den häufigen Gebrauch des Wortes „Sünde“ nicht.
– Frank Muchlinsky



Der Spruch von den "kleinen Sünden" sagt ja auch noch etwas anderes, und darauf gehen Sie in Ihrer Frage auch ein: Wenn Gott die kleinen Sünden sofort bestraft, wann bestraft er dann die großen? Später, natürlich.

Und so kommen wir schnell auf das Jüngste Gericht, auf die Hölle und ewige Strafen. Mit denen zu drohen, hat schon immer denen geholfen, die wollten, dass andere Leute das tun, was sie selbst für richtig hielten. Ein geschicktes Druckmittel, mit dem man anderen Angst machen kann.

Der wichtigste christliche Glaubenssatz lautet aber nicht: Du wirst für deine Sünden büßen müssen, sondern: Jesus Christus hat die Sünden aller Menschen auf sich genommen.

Ja, es gibt die Vorstellung von der Hölle noch – auch in den evangelischen Kirchen. Wer aber ständig von der Hölle redet, verkehrt das, was Jesus Christus gelehrt hat, ins Gegenteil. Der sprach nämlich meistens vom Reich Gottes!

Darum sollten wir in vielerlei Hinsicht vorsichtig sein, wenn es um die Sünde geht. Weder sollten wir so tun, als könnten wir tun und lassen, was wir wollen, noch sollten wir ständig von Sünde reden, wenn wir von einer Regelübertretung sprechen.

Wir sollten uns überlegen, ob wir die Hölle vor allem deswegen gut finden, weil wir andere dort schmoren sehen wollen.

Wir sollten und klar machen, dass kein Mensch jemals ohne Sünde sein kann, sondern dass wir alle auf Vergebung angewiesen sind. Und darum sollten wir selbst vergeben.

*Mehr bei evangelisch.de
Contact Pastor Hahn for an English translation.*

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS



Thursdays at 7:27 PM
Via Telephone or Internet

You might as well be honest and admit it: You have not really done what you promised with your confirmation vows, your membership vows, and your affirmation of baptism vows: “To proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed.”

And there are probably various and valid reasons why you have not really done what you promised. One of the reasons may be that nobody taught you how to do it. That is a valid point. No one can be expected to do something, even if they promised it, if they have not been equipped, prepared, or trained.

But now there is a remedy. A series of online presentations to help you understand and do what you have promised.

Tune in on Thursdays at 7:20 PM so you will be ready when the presentation starts. Just listen and learn. You will not be asked to comment or speak.

Here is the login information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88552073779?pwd=QVFONFdpM3FGclY2RGw3UXF0TFdEQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5207 3779; Passcode: 282583

Dial in: 646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 885 5207 3779

Passcode: 282583

Congratulations

We congratulate Jennifer Trepper (granddaughter of Joan & Ted Schmidt) who graduated from Neshaminy High School. She will attend Manor College.

Address Change

Gerlinde Kraft

Paul & Alma Dallas

Please contact the church office for their addresses

In Christian Sympathy

We extend our Christian Sympathy to **Robert Camburn** and his family and friends as they are mourning the loss of Robert’s wife, Julie, who passed away July 18. Robert is a friend of the Immanuel Church family. Please keep the Camburn family in your prayers.

We mourn the loss of **Dave Mitchell**, who passed away on July 19. In the spring, Dave had been elected to serve on Immanuel's congregation council. He had also agreed to begin serving as treasurer in the near future. His funeral service was on July 24 with Pastor Hahn officiating. Please keep the family and friends of Dave in your prayers.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank You!

Thank you for your generosity! The food donations that were picked up by Feast of Justice in April weighed 725 pounds. The food that was picked up on May 6th weighed 850 pounds! Food drop offs can be made at Immanuel Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. (Please call before you come to the campus.)



Feast of Justice is located at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mayfair.



Good news! Thirty-three (33) blankets have been donated to the Linus Project. This was due to the support and diligence of the women who, in spite of the pandemic, did not forget the work of the Linus Project. A grateful "thank you" to Ilse Abendroth, Judy Friedman, Barbara Hannon, Gerlinde Kraft, Anneliese Mueller, Janice Murset, Margret Rommel, Helen Knoechel and Connie Mascino who made these donations possible.

I am, and I hope you are also, looking forward to a Saturday in the Fall when we are able to once again get together and sit, knit/crochet, and chatter.

Wishing everyone a very happy, safe summer.
– Alma Dallas

August is Seafarer Emphasis Month Sponsor a "ditty bag!" (or two)

In the past, the members and friends of Immanuel have donated health care, personal hygiene, and safety items that would then be assembled into "ditty bags," bags given as Christmas gifts to seafarers who arrived in the port of Philadelphia around Christmas time. Many of them don't see their families for months on end, and the bags are a practical way of sharing the love of God with them.

This year, with safety a priority, you are encouraged to "sponsor" one or more bags for \$10.00 each. A small group of volunteers will then purchase the items and assemble the bags.

Please send a check for the number of bags you would like to sponsor (\$10 per bag) to the church office. Make the check out to "Immanuel Lutheran Church" with "ditty bags" on the memo line. You can also give online through our website, ImmanuelPhilly.org.



A Child's Point of View

The story of Adam and Eve was being carefully explained in the children's Sunday School class. Following the story, the children were asked to draw a picture that would illustrate the story. Little Bobby drew a picture of a car with three people in it. In the front seat was a man and in the back seat, a man and a woman. The teacher was at a loss to understand how this illustrated the lesson of Adam and Eve. Little Bobby was prompt with his explanation. "Why, this is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden!"



IMMANUEL GERMAN SCHOOL
Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia

We're BACK!!

We are pleased to report that the Lower Moreland Board of School Directors recently voted to approve the rental agreement with the Immanuel German School! Let's all work together to Build Back Better. We are proud to announce that Immanuel German School will begin its **47th** year providing instruction in the German language and culture to children, young adults, and adults throughout the greater Delaware Valley on September 11, 2021.

We know that this past year has been difficult on so very many levels. We truly thank each and every one of you who has stayed with us. Parents, students, and colleagues: We know it hasn't been easy, nor has it been as much *fun*. We really miss seeing you each Saturday, and the small picture on a computer screen was hardly a substitute.

As you know from our spring newsletter, in spite of the pandemic and the remote learning, several of our students have still managed to complete the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom* on levels I and II. Many more participated in the two tests leading up to the *Sprachdiplom*: the *Internationale schulische Vergleicharbeit* A1 and A2, and still more in the National German Exam, where they earned a total of 33 medals and awards: 12 Gold, 7 silver, 6 bronze and 8 achievement. Several of our students also just completed the AP German Language and Culture Exam. Each of these achievements serves as proof that our students are really learning German, and each certificate can and should be shared with your child's regular school and be part of the school record. This strong and comprehensive testing program is just one aspect that distinguishes us from all the other schools or organizations that may offer some German classes.

Please help us spread the word. **We're back!** If we want to build back better, we need your help. Please don't ask, "When's the last day to sign up and pay?" but "**When can we register?**" If we are going to continue to offer the best German program around, we need you. We need students. We truly appreciate the many donations we receive, but if our classrooms were full that would be even better. Please remember that if your family was hard hit financially during the pandemic, please don't be shy – several generous donors have made it possible for us to offer full and/or partial scholarships.

Anticipating a return to IGS on the part of some of the students who did not return during the pandemic, we would like to announce that there will be no increase in tuition for students who register and pay before August 4.

Wir freuen uns auf Euch! We look forward to seeing each of you in September.

Enjoy the summer!

– Del, Jeanette, John, and Marianne

AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10th Sunday After Pentecost 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM INDOOR German Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service	2	3 1:30 PM Member Care Team 7:00 PM Christian Events Team	4	5 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference 7:27 PM The Art of Better Reaching	6 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	7
8 11th Sunday After Pentecost 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM INDOOR English Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service 7:30 PM INDOOR English Communion Service	9	10	11	12 7:27 PM The Art of Better Reaching	13 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	14
15 12th Sunday After Pentecost 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM INDOOR German Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16	17	18	19 9:30 AM Deans Meeting 7:27 PM The Art of Better Reaching	20 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home 8:00 PM Movie Under the Stars "ET"	21
22 13th Sunday After Pentecost 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM INDOOR English Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service 7:30 PM INDOOR English Communion Service	23	24 7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting (remote)	25	26 7:27 PM The Art of Better Reaching	27 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	28
29 14th Sunday After Pentecost 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM INDOOR TBA Service 11:11 AM German Service	30	31				

PLEASE NOTE: Worship Services in black ink and most Meetings are remote and will be held/broadcast LIVE through ZOOM. (Online and telephone) INDOOR Services include Holy Communion and are in red

Food drop offs can be made Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Please call ahead.)
 Check your email or the announcements in your worship folder for ZOOM instructions.

Looking Ahead: Fall Yard Sale – Date to be determined