

# **Immanuel Newsletter**

## **GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS**

### **JULY 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

### **INDOOR Worship Begins!**

#### **July 4**

10:15 AM German Service

#### **July 11**

10:15 AM English Service  
7:30 PM English Contemporary Service

#### **July 18**

10:15 AM German Service

#### **July 25**

10:15 AM English Service  
7:30 PM English Contemporary Service

**The Congregation Council will provide last-minute information and updated protocols for indoor worship in a separate mailing. Please watch for it, open it, and read it.**

### **Online Sunday Worship in JULY**

**9:19** AM English

**11:11** AM German

Please note that the start times have changed slightly. The English service changed from 9:30 to 9:19 AM and the German service changed from 11:00 to 11:11 AM.

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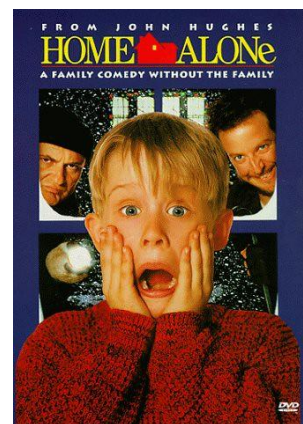
### **Movies Under the Stars**

**Friday, July 23**

**8:30 PM**

**(Doors Open at 8:00 PM)**

**“Home Alone”**



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

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Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

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## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING TIMES, LEADERS (All meetings held thru ZOOM)

Bible Study	<i>On hiatus</i>		Pastor Hahn
Choir	<i>On hiatus</i>		
Congregation Council	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	7:00 PM	Barbara Hannon
Christian Events Team	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eileen Szentjobi
Finance Team	4 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 [IELC.newsletter@comcast.net](mailto:IELC.newsletter@comcast.net).

**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.

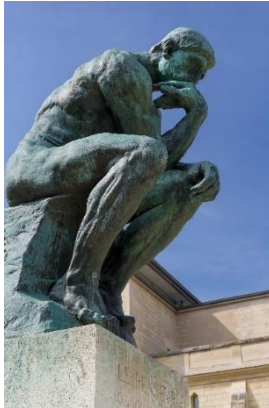
# CONNECTING WITH GOD

## From Pastor Hahn

My dear Immanuel church family:

Today, I am happy to present to you a guest column by Dr. Paul ("Skip") Johnson, a long-time colleague and friend, entitled "In Praise of Slow Thinking." Enjoy!

**Daniel Kahneman is a psychologist and recipient of the 2002 Nobel Prize for Economics.** His life's work has been focused on judgment and human decision-making ... His research challenges the assumption that human beings are inherently rational. While we like to think we are inherently logical Kahneman's findings show us to be heavily biased observers who tend to be sloppy in our decision making.



**One of the many insights** emerging from his work ... [are] two major types of cognition that our brain uses on a daily basis, what Kahneman calls "fast" thinking and "slow" thinking. Fast thinking is the label that Kahneman gives to those automatic acts of cognition that allow us to drive a car or to make instant judgements. Sometimes we also term fast thinking "intuition." We're not sure how we know something. We just do.

**"Slow" thinking** takes longer and engages the higher, analytical brain functions. It requires deliberation. Slow thinking is the taking of a deep breath and counting to ten when "fast" thinking has flooded the mind with emotion and an accompanying plan of fight or flight. Or when the brain has rendered a snap judgement and we pause to take a second more appraising look that is open to discovering significant details initially missed.

**Kahneman reveals** that the brain tends to be lazy and searches for the simplest way to route information and solve problems, looking for the path of least resistance. It will choose easy over hard and simple over complex, sometimes choosing a position and THEN looking for facts to support what it initially decided, while casting doubt on any evidence to the



contrary. Repetition creates familiarity, which the brain likes and it will choose familiar ideas over those that are new or different.

**Advertisers know this well** and take advantage with jingles that become ear worms with catch phrases that become repeated and repeated and repeated.

**A tragic and effective historical example** of this is well witnessed by the Nazi fascism of the 1930's that branded the Jewish population as decadent and deserving of destruction. Germans were considered to be among the most cultured and rational people of the world but through the constant repetition of misinformation and caricatured images, their minds were persuaded, "Well, this must be true," even when it was demonstrably false.

**Being a Christian requires the activation of slow thinking.** (Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer is an example of a 1930's slow thinking Christian with his concepts of cheap and costly grace.) Along with a Gospel request for his listeners to wake up, to hear and to see in a graced way, I can imagine a contemporary Jesus of today pleading with those that would be His followers in 2021 to practice "slow" thinking.

**The world is complex and requires thoughtful discernment.** First perceptions can be wrong no matter how "right" they may feel. Always allow yourself the gift of changing your mind.

**Social media gains its power** through an understanding of how the brain can be fooled. But it can be challenged by a deliberate engagement that poses questions and operates from a redemptive position informed by the biblical message.

**"Welcome the stranger," the bible wisely declares.** Not simply the person who appears differently in color or creed or culture. But also welcome the stranger that comes as a new idea or learning that deserves a conversation and time of consideration. For the church of Jesus Christ, slow thinkers are

welcome.

Learn more here:

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/kahneman-excerpt-thinking-fast-and-slow/>

God's Peace, *Pastor Hahn*

## Eine jüdische Stimme

Im Judentum gelten Mädchen mit 12 und Jungen mit 13 Jahren als erwachsen, das heißt, in der Lage, Verantwortung für das eigene religiöse Leben und für die Erfüllung der Gebote vor Gott und den Menschen zu übernehmen. Von diesem Zeitpunkt an werden sie als „Bar Mitzwah“ bzw. „Bat Mitzwah“, als „Sohn/Tochter der Verpflichtung“, betrachtet und sind selbst verantwortlich für das Halten der Gebote.

Erst seit dem Mittelalter begehen Jungen den Beginn dieser neuen Lebensphase mit einer Zeremonie, zu der das Rezitieren der Torah im Gottesdienst, ein Lehrvortrag und das Anlegen der Tefillin (Gebetsriemen) gehören. Von nun an werden sie zum Minjan, also des für bestimmte Gebete und Rituale notwendigen Quorums von zehn Männern, gerechnet.

Für Mädchen bildeten sich erst im Verlauf des 20. Jahrhunderts verschiedene Formen heraus, um die Bat Mitzwah zu feiern.

Die Vorbereitungen für die Bar/Bat Mitzwah ziehen sich bei Kindern je nach Vorwissen und Gemeindepraxis über ein bis drei Jahre hin. Im Gottesdienst legen sie zum ersten Mal ihren Tallit an und tragen den Wochenabschnitt der Torah ganz oder teilweise vor, meist in der traditionellen musikalischen Rezitationsweise. Dazu kommt noch die Haftarah, die Prophetenlesung, in Hebräisch oder in der Landessprache. Danach folgt eine kurze Predigt, manchmal wird auch ein Teil des Gottesdienstes vorgebetet. Daran schließt der Kiddusch, ein festlicher Imbiss, in der Gemeinde an und danach wird im privaten Rahmen mit Familie und Freundeskreis weitergefeiert.

## Eine christliche Stimme

Sowohl Judentum als auch Christentum kennen Rituale des Erwachsenwerdens und

Zeichenhandlungen, welche die zivile und religiöse Mündigkeit zum Ausdruck bringen, aber auch die Einladung zum christlichen Zeugnis in der heutigen Welt und zur

Mitarbeit in der Gemeinde.

In der römisch-katholischen Kirche ist die Firmung das Sakrament der Mündigkeit. Der Bischof verleiht und feiert die Gabe des Geistes unter Gebet und Salbung bzw. Handauflegung. Die Firmanden empfangen Gottes Geist. Sie erwidern den Friedensgruß und sind bereit, sich selbst mit ihren Charismen in den Dienst der Menschen zu stellen. Die Firmpat\*innen unterstützen sie dabei, was sie mit der Hand auf der Schulter der Jugendlichen signalisieren.

In der Evangelischen Kirche bekräftigen junge

Menschen ihre Aufnahme in die christliche Gemeinde, die zuvor mit der Taufe, meist im Säuglingsalter, geschehen ist.

In der Konfirmanden-Zeit lernen die jungen Menschen die Grundlagen des christlichen Glaubens kennen, üben sich in

christlicher Spiritualität ein und engagieren sich im Gemeindekontext.

Nach dem Fest der Konfirmation sind sie eingeladen, ihren Weg des Glaubens in der Gemeinschaft anderer Christinnen und Christen weiter zu gehen und sich mit ihren Gaben und Fähigkeiten in der Gemeinde einzubringen.

*Mehr zu dem juedisch-christlichen Dialog der EKD finden Sie unter [www.ekd.de](http://www.ekd.de)*



# CONNECTING WITH OTHERS



## Condolences

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Klaus Abendroth who passed away May 27. Military honors rendered by the United States Marine Corps., masonic service, and graveside service were held on June 23 at Washington Crossing Cemetery. Thank you for keeping the Abendroth family and friends in your prayers.

## Congratulations

**Kaitlyn Blankenhorn** of Wilkes University was recently honored to receive an award from The Office of Residence Life for Outstanding Service and Dedication. She was a Resident Assistant (RA) for three years. After completing her APPE rotations, Katy will graduate Summa Cum Laude with her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree with a minor in Business Administration in May, 2022. Congratulations, Katy!

Blessings and congratulations to **Declan William Seltner**, his parents and godparents. Declan was baptized on June 13 during the morning Outdoor Holy Communion service. Declan is the son of Sabrina Ewing and William Seltner.

## Christmas in July

On Friday, July 23, we will start our Christmas in July celebration with a screening of “Home Alone” under the stars! Doors open at 8:00 PM and the movie starts at 8:30.

On Sunday, July 25, we will celebrate Christmas in July at all services. Look for special Christmas readings, hymns and meditation.



## Graduation Sunday – June 27

We congratulate our graduates: Lauren A. Dallas, Andrew S. Dallas, Rob Eppinger, Matthias Hausman, Bethany Lin Johnson, Ryan Laurie, and Liam Szentjobi! We wish them all the best in their future endeavors.



**Lauren A. Dallas** – BS in Occupational Therapy from Townson University, MD.

**Andrew S. Dallas** – Master's in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University, CA.

**Rob Eppinger** – graduating from Valley Christian School and will be attending Germantown Academy for high school starting in the fall.

**Matthias Hausman** – graduating from Rochester Institute of Technology with a double major in Mechanical Engineering and International and Global Studies.

**Bethany Lin Johnson**, Pastor and Lyn Hahn's adopted niece, graduated from Brookwood High School in Snellville, GA. She will spend some time working in a Methodist camp for youth and explore her future academic options. Bethany is the daughter of Dr. Paul "Skip" Johnson and Dale Ann Joslin.

**Ryan Laurie** – graduating from Abington Senior High School. Ryan will be attending Penn State University-Abington in the fall and his major is currently undecided.

**Liam Szentjobi** will be graduating from American University and is joining the US Marines. *Thank you for serving, Liam!*

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

### Thank You!



Dear Pastor Hahn & Immanuel Family,  
Thank you so much for all the continued prayers as Anthony heals from surgery, he is moving around and healing well. He is ready to get out and about hopefully real soon!!!  
We are also thankful for all the congratulations and well wishes Sierra received for her many achievements throughout the school year. She enjoyed each note, card and all the kind words!!! Thank you for always thinking of our family. Hope to see you all soon.

Best wishes to all, Kari Spina & Family

**TO** Judy Friedman for making two of the red stoles worn by our confirmands on Confirmation Sunday. (We apologize. This information was inadvertently not included in last month's newsletter.)

**FROM** Pastor Hahn: Thank you for remembering me with cards, calls, emails, texts, prayers, and surprise gifts on my birthday. I really appreciate your care and kindness.

**TO** the members and friends of the Immanuel church family who, in the month of May, showed awesome generosity by giving extra gifts and/or catching up on missed Sunday gifts. Your gifts helped meet unmet needs and is a big help for our preparations to return to indoor in-person worship and resume our outreach to people in our community who are without a church home.

**FROM** Peter Hermann: Dear Church friends, I would like to thank you so much for praying, caring, writing, and calling during my sickness. We thank God for Pastor and everybody who works for opening the church [building]. Let us be strong together in Jesus Christ.



# IMMANUEL GERMAN SCHOOL

Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia

We certainly all hope that Lower Moreland will welcome us back in the fall and the schools will reopen as normal. We also hope to see many new students as well as those who took a year off due to online fatigue.

We are well aware that some of our families may be truly suffering financially. At this point, I would love to be able to say, no worry, we'll find a way. We do have a few scholarships that have typically been reserved for students new to IGS. Perhaps we can find donors to create a few more. Please let us know if your child(ren) is/are unable to return due to financial concerns.

In any event, I'd like to thank all of you for your commitment to the German language and culture and to the Immanuel German School, and I'd like to especially thank our dedicated teachers for making the quick transition to online teaching.

## National German Exam

Thirty-four of our students participated in the National German Exam. Based on their percentile scores, we had:

- 12 Gold Medals (90-99th percentile)
- 7 Silver Medals (80-89th percentile)
- 6 Bronze Medals (70-79th percentile)
- 8 Achievement Medals (50-69th percentile)

## Thanks to our Sponsors!

- Deutscher Kreis der Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Literary Society of New York
- Prof. Dr. Gerhard Kalmus and Mrs. Karin Kalmus
- Evangelisch-Lutherische Sankt Johannesgemeinde
- International German-American Police Association
- The Turcios-Wiswe Family
- The Hesel Family
- Bundesverwaltungsamt Köln –Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen
- William George Shuster
- Barbara Hannon
- James Seifert
- Margot Purucker
- The Peters Family

–Del Hausman



# JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> <b>Most Worship Services and Meetings are remote</b> <b>-EXCEPTIONS are in red-</b> <b>and will be held/broadcast LIVE through ZOOM. (Online and telephone)</b>				<b>1</b>  9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference	<b>2</b>  2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	<b>3</b>  10:30 AM DELKINA Executive Committee
<b>4</b>  <b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b> <b>Independence Day</b> 9:19 AM English Service <b>10:15 AM INDOOR German Service</b> 11:11 AM German Service	<b>5</b>  Independence Day Holiday Observed Church Office Closed	<b>6</b>  1:30 PM Member Care Team	<b>7</b>  7:00 PM Book Discussion	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	<b>10</b>  10:30 AM DELKINA Executive Committee
<b>11</b>  <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b> 9:19 AM English Service <b>10:15 AM INDOOR English Service</b> 11:11 AM German Service <b>7:30 PM INDOOR English</b> <b>Contemporary Service</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  7:00 PM Christian Events Team	<b>14</b>  7:00 PM Book Discussion	<b>15</b>  9:30 AM Deans Meeting	<b>16</b>  2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>  <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b> 9:19 AM English Service <b>10:15 AM INDOOR German Service</b> 11:11 AM German Service	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  10:00 AM Wedding of Aubrey Maks and Adrian Ash	<b>21</b>  7:00 PM Book Discussion	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  2:00 PM Christ in Our Home  8:30 PM Movie Under the Stars "Home Alone"	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>  <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost</b> <b>"Christmas in July"</b> 9:19 AM English Service <b>10:15 AM INDOOR English Service</b> 11:11 AM German Service <b>7:30 PM INDOOR English</b> <b>Contemporary Service</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting (remote)	<b>28</b>  7:00 PM Book Discussion	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	<b>31</b>

**Food drop offs can be made Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

**Check your email or the announcements in your worship folder for ZOOM instructions.**

**Looking Ahead**  
**August 20 – Movie Under the Stars Night "ET"**  
**Fall Yard Sale – Date to be determined**