

JUNE 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

Immanuel Newsletter GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

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Outdoor In-Person Worship with Holy Communion* Sundays, 8:30 AM & 7:30 PM

June 6 and 20: German Service
June 13 and 27: English Service
All Sundays: 7:30 PM English Service

PLEASE, reserve your spot by emailing or calling the office BY NOON on FRIDAYS.
PLEASE, bring a chair (or sit in your car).
PLEASE, wear a mask over mouth and nose.
PLEASE, observe physical distancing.

Communion will be contact-less with pre-packaged individual cups and wafers in a sterile package for each person.

**weather permitting*

Online Sunday Worship in JUNE

9:30 AM English
11:00 AM German

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

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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 Study	Wednesdays	10:00 AM	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 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

I have some important items to bring to your attention. One involves a recent event in our church family's life, the other pertains to our shared future. Both are joyful occasions and reasons to rejoice and celebrate.

Looking Back

At a beautiful outdoor service on Sunday, May 23rd, two teenagers and four adults (l. to r. in picture: *Rob Eppinger, Kaitlyn Turnbull, Mark Potent, Dona and Dave Brabazon, and Lyn Hahn*) affirmed their baptism in a rite better known as "Confirmation." Each confirmand had selected one of the worship hymns/songs and each took an active role either as reader or Communion assistant.

Their nearly three-year long journey of learning finally came to an end and a different journey began: With their promises before God and their church family they vowed to take responsibility as adults to live and serve as God's people and as members of Christ's church.



As a symbol of their new identity as full adult members of our church, each of the confirmands received a red stole (handmade by members of our church family). The stoles were placed on each confirmand's shoulders by a person or persons special to each.

Instead of a tackling a multiple-choice quiz at the end of their learning journey, each confirmand was asked to answer a set of questions. (You can read excerpts of their answers on another page.) The confirmands also completed a spiritual gifts inventory to discern how God had gifted each of them in baptism.

The confirmands surprised Marianne Haug with a flower bouquet for her assistance with the Confirmation class before Covid hit.



Please keep the confirmands in your prayers.

Looking Forward

The moment a number of members and friends of Immanuel have been waiting for is just around the corner: a return to INDOOR in-person worship.

On Monday, May 24, a special taskforce appointed by Council President Barbara Hannon presented to the Congregation Council a plan for safely resuming indoor worship. This plan considered safety protocols of the City of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania as well as technical and logistical challenges unique to Immanuel (e.g., air exchanges per hour, etc.).



After a Question-and-Answer time with the taskforce, the Congregation Council voted unanimously for July 4th (Independence Day) as the target date for a return to INDOOR in-person worship. This first in-person service will be in German on July 4 and begin at 10:15 AM. Then, on July 11, the in-person service will be in English. (The services will alternate through July.) In addition to the in-person worship option ONLINE services will continue in July in both languages.

As we get closer to July 4th, you will receive information about the safety protocols that will be in place on July 4th as well as other things to consider.

An effort will be made to upgrade our video, audio, and streaming capabilities so that, eventually, the in-person services can be accessed via computer and telephone.

For the month of JUNE, there will be some new worship options and times: 8:30 AM and 7:30 PM OUTDOOR Holy Communion services; 9:30 AM English ONLINE service; 11:00 AM German ONLINE service. Please make a note of these changes.

Thank you for your patience and your care for the safety of others, especially the most vulnerable among us – both in the past and the weeks and months to come.

God's Peace,

Pastor Hahn

You've Got to Read This! – Q&A with Our Confirmands

Q: Describe a couple of learnings from the Confirmation class that stand out for you in a POSITIVE way.

A: I thoroughly enjoyed when we read Luke in the Bible. Coming from the Catholic faith, I feel the Bible was more read to us, rather than being encouraged to read the Bible on our own. I feel this to be personally liberating, and it brings me closer to God through reading his given word to us. I also enjoyed the intergenerational aspect of our class. It was interesting to compare my own thoughts and interpretations with those of the younger people in our class. —*Dave B.*

A: I was raised in the Southern Baptist faith tradition. One of its main teachings is that a person must live right, avoid sin, and by doing so he/she can earn God's love and forgiveness. The outstanding teaching or idea that I have come to understand most clearly from Confirmation is that God already has forgiven me and loves me and nothing I can do can change that. —*Lyn H.*

Q: Describe a couple of learnings that really challenged you.

A: In Luke it talked about we need not worry about tomorrow. Jesus said "Do I not feed the birds and provide water for them and, so, if I do that for them, will I not do the same for you my children?" It is a very encouraging part of scripture. Being a worrier, this is a very comforting and a good reminder that God is in control. —*Dona B.*

Q: What did you like best?

A: The thing I liked the most about the way our program went was that it was largely informal. I enjoyed the fellowship before service, the contemporary music included in the service, and the open forum used during the class. —*Mark P.*

I liked how easy it was to talk to everyone and share my ideas as well as talk my questions out with others. I can happily say that I had no complaints with the way we handled things. —*Kaitlyn T.*

Q: Why affirm your Baptism at Immanuel Lutheran?

A: I like being a part of a group who shares the same spiritual beliefs as I. Immanuel is where I chose to affirm my baptism because after every service I feel uplifted and have a smile on my face. —*Kaitlyn T.*

A: I love the concept of GRACE! That faith alone will get you into heaven and that nothing we do can turn God's love away from us. I like how very community-oriented Immanuel is and the ELCA is. The church as a whole is all about helping the poor in this country. —*Dona B.*

A: The Lutheran church has been the only church that has improved my spirituality and my relationship with Jesus. —*Mark P.*

A: I like how this church is able to use more modern songs and techniques (like videos, PowerPoints, Zoom, etc.) while still keeping the more traditional songs. I also like how there is a German service. —*Rob E.*



Q: Please share how you plan to live out the Confirmation promises about being an active contributing church member in the next couple of years at Immanuel and beyond?

A: I will continue to come to church (worship) and help with events. —*Rob E.*

A: I plan on continuing to use my talents and time to assist Immanuel grow its congregation. —*Mark P.*

A: I intend to continue my commitment to Immanuel by attending weekly services, to help where I can with helping the poor and less fortunate, to help with outreach programs, and to practice and play live with my fellow band mates in the church band. —*Dave B.*

A: I plan on continuing to go to services and get more involved as the Lord would direct me. I enjoy helping out with the drive thru events. I also feel a strong desire to welcome visitors and make people feel as welcome as we felt when we first came to the church. I would also love to get involved in the children's ministry when the church opens again. —*Dona B.*

The red stoles worn by the confirmands were hand-made by Judy Friedman, Anneliese Mueller, Christel Birgel, Margret Rommel, and Lyn Hahn. Thank you!

Condolences



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Pierre Rausch who passed away April 21. Services are currently being arranged. Thank you for keeping the Rausch family and friends in your prayers.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to Klaus and Gisela Bernhardt who are mourning the death of Klaus' brother, Günther, who passed away recently at age 89 at his home in Germany. Please keep the members and friends of the Bernhardt family in your prayers.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Erhard Pohl who passed away recently. Erhard lived with his wife, Hildegard, in the town of Newfoundland, PA. Please keep Hildegard and all who are mourning Erhard's death in your prayers.

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

Graduation Sunday

As in previous years, we would like to honor, celebrate with, and pray for the members and friends in our congregation who are graduating this year. We plan to bless our graduates on Sunday, June 27.

Please send the name of your graduating family member to the church office at 215-464-1540 or office@ImmanuelPhilly.org and include, if possible, what the graduate's next steps or plans are.



Congratulations

Sierra Lockhart of Cedar Crest College, was inducted into Delta Mu Delta. The honor society was founded in 1913 to recognize exceptional students in the field of business. The Cedar Chi chapter was established in 2010. Congratulations, Sierra!

After graduating this year, **Matthias Hausman**, a mechanical engineering and international and global studies double major at Rochester Institute of Technology, will travel to Saxony, Germany, to teach English this September. As a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, he will be placed in a German classroom to provide assistance to a local English teacher. Once he returns from his journey abroad, Matthias plans to attend Penn State University to pursue a master's degree in International Affairs. Congratulations, Mattias!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank You!



TO Barbara Hannon for procuring the beautiful flowers for Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday.

TO the Confirmation Class, especially Dona and Dave Brabazon, for sponsoring the “cupcake reception” after the outdoor Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) Service on Pentecost Sunday.

TO Judy Friedman, Christel Birgel, Lyn Hahn, Anneliese Mueller, and Margret Rommel for hand-making the red stoles for our confirmands.

TO Erin Potent and George Herrmann for serving as photographers at the Confirmation service.

TO Jim Clements for preparing and leading the worship service on Creation Care Sunday in May.

TO Matt and Christel Birgel for their gardening ministry. (See picture and note on page 7.)

TO the member who donated his entire government stimulus check for God’s work at and beyond Immanuel and the member who directed her mandatory IRA distribution to be used for God’s work at and beyond Immanuel.

TO Lyn Hahn and Matt DeMarco for being Pastor Hahn’s key assistants with the physical and electronic set-up for our Sunday worship services.

TO the members and friends of Immanuel who have been supporting our BIG food emphasis, especially those who have sent a check and asked that Pastor Hahn shop for them-which he did. (See separate picture and note on page 7.)

TO the members and friends who in word and deed support God’s work at Immanuel quietly, behind the scenes, and without being known.

TO everyone who has mailed their offering to the church office or donated online.

“Caught” Doing Ministry

Since Johann Scholtz’s “retirement” last year as Immanuel’s keeper of the memorial garden, there has been a vacancy, although a couple of individuals have tried to spruce up the flower bed.

After coordinating with the congregation council Christel and Matt Birgel donated their time and talent as well as flowers from their own garden to giving the memorial garden a new look.



It was quite a job as the soil was extremely hard from a lack of rain recently. It looks great!

The BIG Food Drive: Phase 1 and Phase 2

During the 50 Days of the Easter season, the members and friends of Immanuel have supported our food drive to share the love of God in a practical way with people who are food-insecure due to fallout from the Coronavirus pandemic.

Members and friends dropped off non-perishable food items at outdoor services and during the week. One big load (pictured below) was already sent to a local food bank.



Other members had groceries delivered directly to the church campus by a local grocery store. Still others took Pastor Hahn up on his offer to go shopping for them. Also, many members and friends sent financial gifts in support of Immanuel's BIG food drive.

If this ministry touches your heart, please continue to support it. If you would like to drop off food or have it delivered, please let Pastor Hahn know in advance. Thank you for sharing the love of God in a practical way!

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$2,338.00 to the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church [for Good Gifts, World Hunger, and Disaster Response]. With your gifts, you are putting God's love into action—living faithfully, witnessing boldly, serving joyfully, and giving abundantly.

*The glory of God is shining through you.
With gratitude,*

Rachel Wind, ELCA, Chicago

Thank You!

You've helped us provide love and hope for our neighbors.



Lutheran Night at the Phillies

Wednesday, June 9, 7:05 PM

Phillies vs the Atlanta Braves

Tickets (subject to availability) are available in select locations. \$2.00 from each ticket sold will benefit SEPA Synod Youth Programs. Contact the Phillies Sales Office at 215-463-5000 ext. 5112 or jleone@phillies.com for more information.

JUNE 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PLEASE NOTE: Most Worship Services and Meetings are remote -EXCEPTIONS are in red- and will be held/broadcast LIVE through ZOOM. (Online and telephone)		1 1:30 PM Member Care Team 7:00 PM Christian Events Team	2 7:00 PM Book Discussion	3 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference	4 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	5
6 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 8:30 AM German Outdoor Holy Communion Service* 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 7:30 PM English Contemporary Outdoor Holy Communion Service*	7 Deans Retreat	8 Deans Retreat	9 7:00 PM Book Discussion 7:05 PM Lutheran Night at the Phillies	10	11 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	12
13 3rd Sunday After Pentecost 8:30 AM English Outdoor Holy Communion Service* 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 7:30 PM English Contemporary Outdoor Holy Communion Service* NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	14	15	16 7:00 PM Book Discussion	17 9:30 AM Deans Meeting	18 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	19
20 4th Sunday After Pentecost Father's Day 8:30 AM German Outdoor Holy Communion Service* 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 7:30 PM English Contemporary Outdoor Holy Communion Service*	21 7:00 PM Congregation Council (remote)	22	23 7:00 PM Book Discussion	24	25 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	26
27 5th Sunday After Pentecost Graduate Sunday 8:30 AM English Outdoor Holy Communion Service* 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 7:30 PM English Contemporary Outdoor Holy Communion Service*	28	29 7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting (remote)	30 7:00 PM Book Discussion			

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.

***weather permitting**