

Immanuel Newsletter

GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

NOVEMBER 2021

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*Connecting people with God and
 with other people to make a difference!*
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Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 30, 3:30 - 5:00 PM

On the Immanuel Campus

Bring your children and grandchildren!
 Encourage your neighbors to bring theirs!



LIVE Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 30, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

On the Immanuel Campus

See Page 6 for more information!



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Worship Opportunities in November

Indoor, In-Person Traditional Worship

with Holy Communion

begins Sunday, November 7

See page 4 for details.

Contemporary Worship

November 14 & 28 at 6:30 PM

(English, Fellowship Hall)

Traditional Online Worship

Every Sunday at 9:19 AM in English

Every Sunday at 11:11 AM in German

CONNECTING WITH GOD

FROM Pastor Hahn

My dear Immanuel church family,

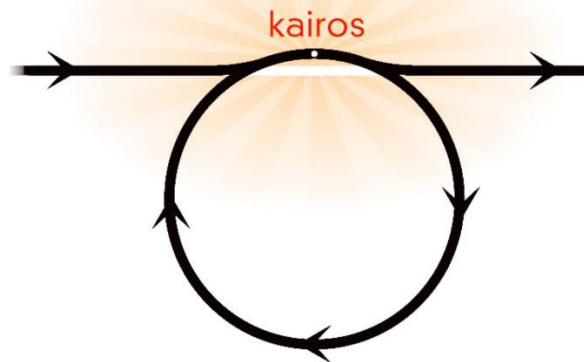
“In my travels,” said Franklin Ishida of Elmhurst, IL, “I’ve seen clocks and watches that stopped suddenly. Not because someone forgot to rewind them or because their battery ran out. They were stopped by a traumatic event ... Time came to an abrupt halt in Hiroshima (Japan) Mianzhu (China), and Kumamoto (Japan) with the detonation of an atom bomb and two devastating earthquakes.”

Christians know that there are two ways of measuring time. They are described by the Greek words “Chronos” and “Kairos.”



From **“Chronos”** we get the English words “chronology” and “chronological.” The term, “Chronos,” describes linear flow of time: from one minute to the next, one day to the next, one year to the next.

“Kairos” is not used in ordinary language. It is a theological and spiritual term that primarily refers to occasions when God acts, when conversion, transformation, and positive change of life happens. It refers to holy moments that “invade” the flow of ordinary time (“Chronos”) because God invites God’s people into something special, unique, extraordinary, something that is out of this world.



As you and I move through “Chronos Time” into a month that includes “All Saints Sunday” and “Thanksgiving,” we give thanks to God for the legacy of people dear to us who have joined The Church Triumphant. We give thanks to God for having the basics of life (and more) in an age where about 16,000 people starve to death each day from preventable causes.

But, even more intently, we want to be on the lookout for God’s time/timing, for “Kairos.” When and how is God calling us deeper into God’s Word through Bible study, closer to God-self through prayer, more connected to our church family through volunteering, more faithful to God’s purpose for the world through greater generosity and bold evangelism?

The COVID-19 pandemic has rocked the world. Things will never be the same. Things will be different. Perhaps God is doing a new thing. Perhaps this is “Kairos,” God on the move.

Will we participate or resist?

Please keep Lyn and me in your prayers. You are in ours.

God’s Peace,

Pastor Hahn

Gedanken zum Totensonntag

In Anbetracht des herannahenden Totensonntags betrachtet Uwe Birnstein, wie die Bibel den Tod beschreibt: „Biblich gesehen ist der Tod der Verlust der Lebenskraft, des Lebenshauchs. Im Neuen Testament findet sich ein neuer Gedanke: Die Macht des Todes sei durch Jesu Leiden und Auferstehung gebrochen. Deshalb lässt es sich für Christen gut mit dem Tod leben.“

Warum es den Tod gibt

Adam und Eva mussten sich noch nicht mit dem Tod auseinandersetzen. Denn im Garten Eden gab es nur das ewige Leben. Folge-richtig kommt in der Schöpfungsgeschichte der Tod nicht vor. Gott hatte viele Dinge erschaffen – nicht aber den Tod. Trotzdem gab es ihn, denn Gott bezog ihn in seine Erwägungen ein. Sonst hätte er Adam und Eva nicht angedroht: Würden sie vom Baum der Erkenntnis essen, müssten sie sterben. Sie tun es bekanntlich trotzdem – und eine Strafe dafür ist, dass Gott sie des Paradieses verweist. Das ewige Leben haben sie verspielt, von nun an müssen die Menschen mit dem Tod leben und werden am Ende wieder „Erde werden“, von der sie „genommen“ sind. Der erste Tote der Weltgeschichte ist Abel, ihr Sohn.

Zitat: „Esset nicht davon, rühret sie auch nicht an, dass ihr nicht sterbet!“ (1. Mose 1-4).

Zeitpunkt ungewiss

Der Tod ist einzige, was sich im Leben gar nicht berechnen lässt: Er kommt, wann er will, sagt der Volksmund, und nimmt damit biblische Weisheiten auf. Die findet sich zum Beispiel im Hiob-Buch: „Plötzlich müssen die Leute sterben und zu Mitternacht erschrecken und vergehen.“ Aus dieser Ungewissheit sollte jedoch tunlichst keine Panik entstehen, sondern eine Gelassenheit: „Geboren werden hat seine Zeit, sterben hat seine Zeit“.

Zitat: „Siehe, ich bin alt geworden und weiß nicht, wann ich sterben werde.“ (1. Mose 27,2).

**Am Sonntag, den 14. November
gedenken wir unserer Verstorbenen
in den Gottesdiensten um 10:15 und
11:11 Uhr.**

Gerechter Tod

Der Tod ist gerecht – in dem Sinne, dass er alle Menschen ereilt, Arme und Reiche, Mächtige und Ohnmächtige, Fromme und Ungläubige. „Dem einen geht es wie dem andern“, räsoniert der Prediger, und Jesus Sirach erkennt einen ewigen Kreislauf: „Gestern war's an mir, heute ist's an dir. So geht's mit dem Menschengeschlecht: die einen sterben, die andern werden geboren.“

Zitat: „Auch die Weisen sterben, so wie die Toren und Narren umkommen.“ (Psalm 49,11).

Der Tod macht das Leben wertvoller

Verändert der Tod das Leben im guten Sinne? Ja – vorausgesetzt, man verdrängt ihn nicht. Man solle stets an das „uralte Gesetz“ denken, „dass wir alle sterben müssen“, empfiehlt Jesus Sirach. Wer diesen Gedanken verinnerlicht, lebt angstfreier. „Wer bist du denn, dass du dich vor Menschen gefürchtet hast, die doch sterben, und vor Menschen-kindern, die wie Gras vergehen?“ Statt sich auf den eigenen Tod zu konzentrieren, sollte der Mensch das Leben genießen und nutzen, so wie es der Psalmist lobt: „Ich werde nicht sterben, sondern leben und des Herrn Werke verkündigen.“

Zitat: „Lehre uns bedenken, dass wir sterben müssen.“ (Psalm 90,12).

Sterben als „Gewinn“

„Tod, wo ist dein Stachel?!“ Trotzig weist der Apostel Paulus den Tod in seine Schranken, fragt: „Tod, wo ist dein Sieg?“ Damit meint er nicht, dass niemand mehr sterben müsse. Sondern: Für einen Christen verliert der irdische Tod an Bedeutung ... Mit dem Sterben komme man näher zu Christus, deshalb hat Paulus sogar „Lust, aus der Welt zu scheiden“ und bezeichnet das Sterben als „Gewinn“.

Zitat: „Wir leben oder sterben, so sind wir des Herrn.“ (1. Korinther 15,55f).



Indoor, In-Person Worship Returns in November

The Congregation Council, at its October meeting, voted to approve a recommendation that indoor, in-person worship services resume the first Sunday in November, November 7th.

Guidelines found on the Synod website (MinistryLink.org) and Philadelphia's website (phila.gov) highlight (1) masking, (2) social distancing of those not from the same household, and (3) good fresh air flow as effective safety measures. Therefore, the following safety measures will be taken at Immanuel's indoor in-person worship:

- A. Prior to the service, the heat will be on to warm up the sanctuary. About 10 minutes into the service, fresh air flow will be provided with fans and open windows and doors (air exchange).
- B. Singing and responses will be part of the worship service. While singing and speaking responses, worshippers are expected to wear masks over mouth and nose.
- C. Holy Communion will be part of the worship service. Worshippers may pick up a communion cup while entering the sanctuary. Offerings may be given at the entrance to the sanctuary. Worshippers are expected to have their masks cover face and nose when entering the building. Masks may be removed after the building has been exited.
- D. Attendance will be recorded for contact tracing.
- E. Worshippers will be directed to fill designated pews from front to back and to exit from back to front. Worshippers are asked to stay in their designated seats until directed to exit the building quickly as the worship space is prepared for the next virtual worship service. Socializing is best done outdoors.
- F. No reservations are necessary.
- G. The indoor worship schedule will alternate between English and German.

Indoor In-Person Worship at 10:15 AM November Emphases and Schedule

Sunday, November 7 (English): All Saints Sunday

"All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, Hallowmas, the Feast of All Saints, or Solemnity of All Saints, is a Christian solemnity celebrated



in honor of all the saints of the church, whether they are known or unknown." (Wikipedia)

At Immanuel, we will remember the saints of our church family who joined The Church Triumphant during the preceding Church Year and deceased loved ones submitted by members and friends of the congregation. Please contact the church office (215-464-1540 or office@ImmanuelPhilly.org) if you would like to include a loved one in the prayers that day.

Sunday, November 14 (German): Totensonntag

"In 1816, *Totensonntag* became a regional religious holiday in the German Kingdom of Prussia. Gradually, Lutheran churches across the rest of Germany began to observe the holiday by honoring the dead." (Wikipedia)

At Immanuel, we will remember the members of our congregation who died during the previous church year. We will also lift up in prayer deceased loved ones submitted by members and friends of ILC. Please contact the church office if you would like to include a loved one in the prayers that day.

Sunday, November 21 (English): Thanksgiving Sunday

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will give thanks to God for the blessings God has showered upon us.

Our Thanksgiving focus will be a special food drive for the hungry in our community. Please donate food on Sunday or drop them off during the weeks before or after Thanksgiving Sunday. You may send an extra check or give online for food to be purchased for you.

Sunday, November 28: First Sunday of Advent

On this Sunday, we will begin the new Christian Church Year by entering the Advent season. Pastor Hahn will be away. Worship plans are still being finalized. Watch for more information as Advent gets closer. Midweek Advent services are being planned.

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

Condolences



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of **Dr. Frido W. Buschmann** who passed away on October 1st. Frido was a member of the Immanuel congregation in his younger years.

We also extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Kathryn Olson** who passed away on October 6th. Kathryn was a friend of the Immanuel congregation and participated in the German-language worship service.

Thank you for keeping Frido's and Kathryn's family and friends in your prayers.



LIVE Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 30, 5:30 TO 7:00 PM

On the Immanuel Campus

- ✓ Taste-test some Oktoberfest beers, root beer and seltzers.
- ✓ Listen to Oktoberfest music.
- ✓ Learn from experienced beer connoisseurs.
- ✓ Have fun with Oktoberfest trivia.
- ✓ Enjoy the ambience of fire pits and tiki torches.
- ✓ Enjoy the fellowship.



If you made an advance reservation, your Oktoberfest foods (catered by Rieker's) will be waiting for you. You don't have to make a reservation to join in the general Oktoberfest activities.

This event will take place rain or shine. (There is a rain backup plan). It is not necessary to like beer to participate. Feel free to bring your own beverage. Please bring a lawn chair.

Outdoor Fellowship and Treats

Thursday, November 4, 2:00 PM

You are invited to a good time of catching up with others from the Immanuel family with coffee and treats. Enjoy gathering with old and new friends at the bell tower on the Immanuel campus. Masks are not required but encouraged when not eating or drinking. Please observe a safe distance of six feet to others not from your household. We want everyone to be safe.

Ongoing Events

Book Discussion Group

Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Contact person: Jim Clements at 215-938-1852
or Jim_Clements@comcast.net.

NEW book coming soon. Check with Jim.

Conversations on "Christ in our Home"

Fridays at 2:00 PM

Conversations about daily devotions. Online.
Fridays from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Contact
person: Pastor Hahn at 215-464-1540 or
PastorHahnILC@gmail.com.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ELCA Good Gifts: Great for Christmas!

ELCA Good Gifts are a creative, meaningful way to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones.



These gifts are real examples from projects currently supported through ELCA churchwide ministries both locally and abroad.

Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives. This allows the ELCA's mission to stay adaptive, flexible and effective in the work that it does.

Favorite gifts, including chicks, honeybees and piglets, as well as newer, time-sensitive gifts of vaccines, water filters and trauma counseling, will be available.

Look for a future e-news email, our website (ImmanuelPhilly.org) and next month's newsletter for more information.

"Sally, Thanksgiving is a very important holiday. Ours was the first country in the world to make a national holiday to give thanks."

- Linus van Pelt, 'A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving'

"But Thanksgiving is more than eating, Chuck. We should just be thankful for being together. I think that's what they mean by 'Thanksgiving', Charlie Brown."

- Marcie, 'A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving'

Thank You for Supporting Immanuel's Food Drive

Over the past several months, members and friends of the Immanuel Church family donated grocery items and pledged funds over the telephone and internet during various food drives. As a result of your generosity, the following has been donated to Feast of Justice:

May	850 pounds
July	625 pounds
September	1262 pounds

In addition, 155 items were donated to the St. Stephen's food pantry.

Thank you for your generosity! Let's continue to support our neighbors in need during the next few months of giving and joy!

Scarves for Seafarers

Scarves can be dropped off at the food collection site of Immanuel (back door) on Sundays. Contact Barbara Hannon or Alma Dallas for more info.



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.

Thank You for Supporting Organizations That Improve Lives

Your financial gifts have made a huge difference in the lives of many people through the charities that Immanuel supports. So far this year, they include:

ELCA Good Gifts	\$1,313.00
Hunger Relief	\$1,285.00
Disaster Relief	\$1,020.00
Seafarers Mission	\$1,000.00
Afghanistan Relief	\$1,209.65
ELCA Mission Support	\$12,600.00
Somerton Food Bank	
and other Agencies	\$2,865.00

LIRS has welcomed more than 500,000 refugees and migrants

For over 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has been a champion for refugees and migrants from around the globe. Its legacy of compassionate service has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have found safety and hope in America's communities.

Its history reflects American Lutherans' deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need. Through its work, it ensures that refugees and migrants are protected, embraced and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities.

Please send offerings you wish to make for this cause, in addition to your weekly support, to Immanuel. Make checks out to Immanuel, memo: refugee aid, or give online, purpose: refugee aid.



Thrivent Choice

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

- Going online at www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice
- Calling 800-847-4836, pressing option 5
- Calling the local Thrivent representative, Michael Ghelardi, at 484-455-783. He will help you direct your Choice Dollars to Immanuel.

Mark Your Calendar Now: Christmas Drive Thru



Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 5, 2021. Immanuel is holding its second annual Christmas Drive Thru on our campus from

5:00 to 7:00 PM. This event was enjoyed by all who came and volunteered last year. The highlight will again be the live Nativity. Many compliments were conveyed to us regarding how beautiful and festive it was. You will need to reserve a time slot to attend. More details to follow.

To make this event a success, we will need lots of volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact Marion Morris at 267-258-2227 or Christine Blankenhorn at 215-947-5079. We could use help for set up or clean up or during the event. There will be set up in the days before the event so there are lots of opportunities for your participation. If anyone has Christmas lights or outside décor they would like to donate or lend to this event, we would be happy to provide pick-up and delivery.

*God is calling us into the world, together.
With generous, loving hands,
we can make a difference.*

NOVEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Election Day	3 7:00 PM Book Discussion	4 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference 2:00 PM Coffee Fellowship	5 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	6 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saints Sunday 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM In-person ENGLISH Communion Service Casperite Baptism 11:11 AM German Service	8	9 9:30 AM Deans Meeting 1:30 PM Member Care Team 7:00 PM Christian Events Tm.	10 7:00 PM Book Discussion	11 Veterans' Day	12 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	13 9:30 AM Immanuel German School
14 Totensonntag 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM In-Person GERMAN Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service 6:30 PM English Contemporary Communion Service NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	15 7:00 PM Congregation Council (remote)	16	Pastor at Bishop's Convocation		17 7:00 PM Book Discussion	18
19 2:00 PM Christ in Our Home	20 9:30 AM Immanuel German School	21 Thanksgiving Sunday 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM In-person ENGLISH Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service	22	23 7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting (remote)	24 7:00 PM Book Discussion	25 Thanksgiving Day <i>Church office closed</i>
26 <i>Church office closed</i>	27	28 First Sunday of Advent 9:19 AM English Service 10:15 AM In-person Communion Service 11:11 AM German Service 6:30 PM English Contemporary Communion Service	29	30	PLEASE NOTE: Most Worship Services and Meetings are remote and will be held/broadcast LIVE through ZOOM. (Online and telephone) -EXCEPTIONS are in red or blue	

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.

Daylight Saving Time Ends

On Sunday, November 7 at 2:00 AM Daylight Saving Time ends. Please be sure to set your clocks **back one hour** before you go to bed Saturday night.