

APRIL 2020

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Connecting people with God and with other people to make a difference!

14100 WORTHINGTON

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www.immanuelphilly.org

Immanuel Newsletter **GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS**

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A PRAYER FROM ELIZABETH EATON, PRESIDING BISHOP, ELCA



God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Due to the current health emergency and to promote “physical distancing” to help limit the spread of the virus, there will be no worship services or gatherings on the Immanuel Church campus until further notice. We will, however, continue to care for one another online and over the phone, rather than in person.



Worship “from home” on Sundays by Telephone or via Internet

9:30 AM English

11 AM German

6:30 PM Evening

If you have email, check your email for the links to each worship service.

If you DON'T have email, receive the access codes via an info call (or contact the council member who reached out to you).

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

The following services will be broadcast during Holy Week

Palm Sunday April 5

9:30 AM English
11:00 AM German
6:30 PM Evening

Maundy Thursday April 9

3:00 PM German
7:00 PM English

Good Friday April 10

3:00 PM German
7:00 PM English



Easter Sunday Services – April 12

9:30 AM English

11:00 AM German

6:30 PM Evening

FROM Pastor Hahn

My dear church family,

These are unusual times, to say the least. The Covid-19 Coronavirus pandemic has altered our life patterns and is taking center stage in our attention and imagination. It is quite understandable, therefore, if we forget something that, in normal times, we would not forget—like an anniversary.

I confess, if some of our church family had not sent congratulatory and appreciative notes, I would have forgotten that you and I should be celebrating the fourth anniversary of our partnership in ministry. Hard to believe, but we have been doing God's work together since Palm Sunday 2016 (which that year was at the end of March.)

We are about to enter Holy Week which begins with Palm/Passion Sunday, includes Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and culminates in the Easter Sunday celebration. It will be different this year as we will be in worship together over the phone and over the internet. But we will still be "the church," because "the church" is the people and NOT the building.

As a Lutheran bishop recently said: "We are not practicing "social distancing" but "physical distancing." We are "the church deployed." The telephone, the US Mail, email, and social media are now our prime tools of staying connected. I appreciate how you reach out to each other and how you check in with me. (Diane and I continue to work in the office—at a safe distance from each other.)

Holy Week reminds us that suffering is real, that death is real. But it reminds us also of the power of love, forgiveness, and community—and that life will have the last word. After Good Friday always comes Easter. If that sounds like good news to you, say "amen."

Please stay diligent in your prayers. You are in mine, please keep me in yours. God's Peace,

Pastor Hahn

THANK YOU

TO the members and friends of the Immanuel church family who are mailing their weekly offerings (see below) to the church office so that the work of the church can continue.



TO the members and friends of Immanuel who are using electronic giving options, either through their banks or through the ImmanuelPhilly.org website to support the work of our church.

TO Matt DeMarco for helping to set up and run our three Sunday online worship services.

TO members and friends of our church family, especially our council members, for checking in with one another.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



Online Bible Study and **Telephone Bible Study** will begin after Easter. This will happen in small groups of four to six persons at a time. Various groups will be

offered, at various times. – **Sign up through the church office by phone or email.**

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

2020 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, March 1, 2020, in our Fellowship Hall. President Barbara Hannon announced that a quorum was reached with 52 members present. Congregation Council appointed Marion Morris to complete the unexpired term of Congregation Council Secretary. The minutes of the 2019 Congregational Meeting were read.

The proposed Ministry Spending Plan (formerly known as the Budget) for 2020 was approved. The Immanuel Congregation Council recommended (for the year 2020 until the next Annual Meeting) that "The minimum number of Council members required to serve on Council be changed from 15 to 10 members". This will allow for two thirds majority of 7 members needed for a quorum. Motion was passed.

Two current Council members were re-elected to Congregation Council for a three-year term. We thank Christel Birgel and Melissa DeVaughn for their continued service. We would like to thank Klaus Abendroth and Sylvia Hansen for their past service on the Council.

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rev. Norbert F. Hahn - Pastor
Barbara Hannon – President
Christine Blankenhorn - Vice President
Marion Morris - Secretary
Margret Rommel - Treasurer
Elaine Bradley - Financial Secretary
Klaus Bernhardt
Christel Birgel
Melissa DeVaughn
Barbara Krewson
Darlene Thurnau

WHAT LUTHERANS BELIEVE

Class resumes (remotely) on
Sunday, April 19 at 7:15 PM.
Newcomers welcome.
Contact Pastor Hahn."

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



This scheduled, April 25th, work day has been postponed. Please do not stop working on your blankets or scarfs as we do look forward to scheduling a new date when circumstances permit.



Fasching, Karneval, the “Fifth Season” (“English”: Mardi Gras)

On Saturday, February 22, students in the Immanuel German School and their parents celebrated Fasching. This traditional pre-Lenten celebration featured colorful costumes, renditions of the *Fliegerlied*, the *Ententanz* (Chicken Dance), and the *Polonaise Blankenese*, and, of course refreshments.



DSD II

This year we had one student take level II of the demanding and prestigious German Language Diploma (this is the exam that certifies that the student’s German is sufficient to study at a German university). We are pleased to report that Julia Oborna passed the exam with flying colors.



Visitors from the German Embassy, Washington

On Saturday, February 29, we were pleased to greet Dr. Niels von Redecker, director of the Germany Center of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and his colleague, Frau Ines Tiessiere. Dr. Redecker and Frau Teisseire visited classes and presented the school with over 100 bags of Gummi Bären and other goodies for the children. Following the visit, Dr. Del Hausman immediately traveled to New York to join a board meeting of the German Language School Conference.

DSD I

Under the watchful eyes of Dr. Martin Luther, Dr. Del Hausman, and Frau Petra Rieker, four students completed the written portion of level one of the German Language Diploma—a four-hour exam testing writing as well as listening and reading comprehension. This portion of the exam was held in Immanuel’s conference room on Thursday, March 12.





David Chiles, Executive Director
Michelle Conley, President, Board of Directors

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March 12, 2020

Dear Friends at Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for supporting Lutheran Settlement House and the children, adults, and families we serve. Your gift of \$400 spreads hope and joy, and it helps our clients to achieve self-sufficiency. Your commitment makes a difference in people's lives, and we are honored to have you in our family of supporters.

Many of the people who arrive at Lutheran Settlement House are in crisis. They are exhibiting their bravery by asking for help, and they are looking for a place where they can be safe, cared for, and empowered. Lutheran Settlement House is that place. Consider what this client in our bi-lingual domestic violence program had to say about her counselor:

"She gave me this look like — I can't explain the look. But it was like, 'Be strong. You can do it. Don't go back. Don't be scared.' It was like all that at one time and she was there for me. She would be there for me, but she can't do nothing unless I make the first step. Yeah, that's the kind of look that she gave me. She gave me strength in that look."

Giving people strength is at the core of what we do. As a donor, you remind our clients that in the most vulnerable times of their lives, they are not alone. You help to give them strength. Thank you for being there for Lutheran Settlement House and for all those we serve together.

Sincerely,

David Chiles
Executive Director

Thank you so much for your help, particularly during this difficult time. I hope you all are safe and healthy, and I hope you know how much your generosity means to those we serve.

P.S. I hope you are staying safe and healthy! As the situation with COVID-19 evolves, Lutheran Settlement House is adjusting our operations to protect the safety of our staff and community while continuing to offer critical services for children, adults, and families in need. Please check our website at www.lutheransettlement.org for up to date information about our services,

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>PLEASE NOTE: All services listed will be available LIVE. Check your emails for instructions. (See page 2)</p>			1	2 10:00 AM Lower Bucks Conference (remote)	3	4
5 Palm Sunday 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service	6	7	8	9 Maundy Thursday 3:00 PM German Service 7:00 PM English Service	10 Good Friday 3:00 PM German Service 7:00 PM English Service	11 Easter Saturday Kids Connection Postponed Easter Egg Hunt Cancelled
12 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service	13	14	15 10:00 AM Remote Bible Study 7:00 PM Remote Bible Study	16 9:30 AM Deans Meeting (remote)	17 10:00 AM Member Care Team (remote)	18
19 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:15 PM What Lutherans Believe (remote) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 7:00 PM Council (remote)	21	22 10:00 AM Remote Bible Study 7:00 PM Remote Bible Study	23	24	25
26 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:15 PM What Lutherans Believe (remote)	27	28	29 10:00 AM Remote Bible Study 7:00 PM Remote Bible Study	30	<p>A REMINDER</p> <p>As you watch/listen to our services don't forget your offering. You can mail it to the church office, Attn: Financial Secretary or you can donate online. Go to www.immanuelphilly.org and click on the Donate button.</p>	