

# AUGUST 2017

## IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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## Immanuel Newsletter

## GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

### Table of Contents

#### Connecting With God

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| From the Pastor   | Pg. 2 |
| Celebrating 500 ! | Pg. 3 |
| Your Are Invited  | Pg. 4 |

#### Connecting With Other People

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Water Adventure Fun Fest | Pg. 5 |
|--------------------------|-------|

#### Making A Difference

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| See How The Garden Grows | Pg. 6 |
| Aid For Friends          | Pg. 6 |
| Seafarer's Ministry      | Pg. 6 |
| Parsonage Repairs        | Pg. 7 |
| Calendar                 | Pg. 8 |

## I-SEE Program

(Immanuel - Summer Education Event)

August 13, 20 and 27  
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM

“Lessons from the Reformation and  
Being Lutheran Today”

## Water Adventure Fun Fest

Saturday, August 12, 2017  
(Rain date: August 19)  
From 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM

# IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

## Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

## CONNECTING WITH GOD

### From Pastor Hahn



Let me ask you a question: What was your most memorable or most exciting birthday?

Was is the celebration of a round number birthday? The birthday when you actually did get the outrageous gift you asked for (maybe a pet or a car), although you were sure, it would not happen? Or was

it the birthday when you were totally surprised by friends and/or family with a surprise party? Maybe it was the birthday you were glad to celebrate after a serious life challenge, such as a major illness or a relationship crisis.

Most people, I believe, can name at least one such special birthday. Of course, there are more and more people who, in addition to their biological birthdays, celebrate their spiritual birthdays or their "re-birthday," i.e. the day when they were "born again" in the power of the Holy Spirit. But I digress.

Let me ask you another question: Why do we give birthday gifts? Among the variety of reasons people have for giving birthday gifts, the following are key: (1) to show appreciation for what the other means to us or has done for us; (2) searching for, buying or making the birthday gift for the other makes us feel good; (3) we know that the other will get a lot of delight or use from the gift.

The same reasons, I submit to you, apply when we give a birthday gift not to a person but an organization, such as our church family.

It just so happens that the Immanuel Church family is turning 225 this fall, and we will be celebrating both on September 17<sup>th</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup>.

The congregation council believes birthday gifts to Immanuel are an appropriate way to mark this special milestone in our history. The council invites the members and friends to make "second-mile gifts" (gifts in addition to your weekly gifts) towards a goal of \$2,250 (I trust you get the number reference.)

One fun and meaningful way would be to give one dollar (\$1) for every year that you have been a part of the Immanuel church family. Or less or each year (say 50 cents), if one dollar per year is more than you could handle; or more per year if, like Lyn and I, you haven't been here that long or if you are especially grateful for your church family.

A lot of things have changed in those 225 years, but some things have remained the same: God's love and steadfastness, God's amazing grace, and God's unfailing presence. And that is good news!

In Christ,  
*Pastor Hahn*

## **DAS REFORMATIONSJUBILÄUM 2017 FEIERN**

*Jede Zeit entfaltet ihr eigenes Gedenken. Alle Gemeinschaften erzählen ihre Ursprungsgeschichten vor dem Hintergrund ihrer Gegenwart. Das gilt für jedes Jubiläum, auch für 2017.*

*Zwischen dem 16. und dem 21. Jahrhundert liegen Welten. Amerika war damals gerade erst entdeckt, der Buchdruck erfunden. Heute sind Smart-phones allgegenwärtig, wir leben in einer globalisierten, multi-kulturellen und in Teilen säkularisierten Welt.*

*Von hier aus werfen wir den Blick auf das, was vor 500 Jahren mit der Frage nach Gott und dem Verhältnis des Menschen zu ihm begann. Denn diese Frage und die Antwort, die die Reformatoren darauf gegeben haben, veränderten damals den Glauben, die Kirche und die europäischen Gesellschaften.*

*Die Reformation hat die Welt, in der wir heute leben, wesentlich mitgeprägt. Daran erinnern wir 500 Jahre später – und wollen zugleich zeigen: Die Kerngedanken der Reformation haben an Kraft nichts eingebüßt. Sie sind auch heute noch aktuell.*

*Das Reformationsjubiläum im 21. Jahrhundert wird anders gefeiert werden als die Jubiläen in vergangenen Jahrhunderten. Es ist nicht nur geistlich und kirchlich, sondern gesamtgesellschaftlich ein bedeutsames Datum für Deutschland, für Europa und weltweit. [From: www.EKD.de](http://www.EKD.de)*

## **Celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation**

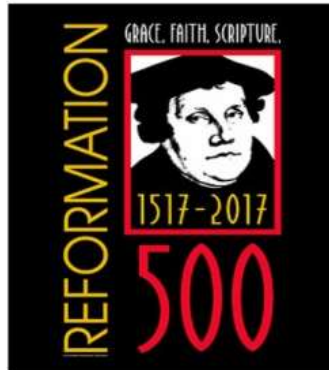
Each historical epoch shapes its own memory. Communities of any kind tell of their beginnings against the backdrop of the present. This is true for all anniversaries, including the one celebrated this year.

The 16<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are worlds apart. Back then, America had just been discovered and the printing press invented. Today, smart phones are everywhere, and we live in a globalized, multi-cultural, and partially secularized world.

That is context from which we look at the events of 1517, which began with a man's search for a gracious God and his quest to be in relationship with that God. The question at the heart of this search and how the Reformers answered it transformed the Christian Faith, the Church, and the European societies.

The world in which we live today has been shaped in significant ways by the Reformation. That is to be lifted up in the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. At the same time, there is this reality: the key insights of the Reformation have not lost any of their power. They are still very much relevant.

The anniversary of the Reformation will be celebrated differently in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century compared to anniversaries in previous centuries. The anniversary is not just a spiritual and ecclesial event, but has significance for all of Germany, for Europe, and the entire world. More at [www.ekd.de](http://www.ekd.de)



**Please note the following change in the Worship Schedule.**

On August, 13, 20 and 27 the German service will start at 11:15 AM.

9:30 AM English Service

10:15 AM I-SEE

**11:15 AM** German Service

## **The Member Care Team and Pastor Hahn Invite You**

**To a Time of Remembrance and Celebration of Life**

**Tuesday, August 29, 2017**

**On the campus of Immanuel Lutheran Church**

6:30 PM: Light Supper

7:00 PM: Candle-lighting, Remembrance, and Celebration

7:30 PM: Dessert and Fellowship

This event is designed for members and friends of the Immanuel church family who have lost a loved one in the last couple of years and are on the journey of grieving and healing.

With this event, your church family would like to offer a safe space and time to remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones in the company of others who are on a similar journey.

We want to break bread, worship, remember, celebrate and socialize together.

We hope you will make time to be there. Please let us know if you need a ride.

R.S.V.P. by August 22 to 215-464-1540 or e-mail to [office@immanuelphilly.org](mailto:office@immanuelphilly.org)

# CONNECTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

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## WE ARE DOING IT AGAIN!

We had such a great turn out by members, friends and our neighborhood community, we are offering a second

# Water Adventure Fun Fest



**Saturday, August 12, 2017**  
**(Rain date: August 19)**  
**From 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM**



Join us for an afternoon of **FUN** in the sun!  
Stop by our Immanuel campus  
to cool off at the water stations.  
Enjoy free food, water ice and drinks!  
Win great prizes!



Bring along an extra pair of shoes/flip flops/water shoes and a towel, **because you will get soaked.**

A shaded area will be available for those who would like to relax!

Have an afternoon of fun for **ALL** ages!

Thank you to all the volunteers who made the July event a success.

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### See How The Garden Grows



Go to our website: [www.immanuelphilly.org](http://www.immanuelphilly.org). Under "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" you will find "THE GARDEN". There you will see photographs that show how the garden has progressed from the day it was tilled until this week. There are signs of a good crop of beans, beets, tomatoes peppers and zucchini.

### Effective Immediately

Donations to the SPCA are no longer being accepted. Please do not bring any donations of sheets, towels, blankets or such items to church - this task has been discontinued.

My sincere thanks to all who have donated items in the past.

Alma Dallas

### Seafarers' Ministry

During the month of August, we are collecting items for the Seafarers' Ministry here in Philadelphia. We are asking you to bring to Worship something from this list of items needed:

- Work socks (no ankle length), work gloves
- Hats, scarves, and gloves in dark colors
- Razors and full size shaving cream
- Full size toothbrush and toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Nail clippers
- Mini sewing kits
- Pens, stationary

### Aid for Friends



Confirmands Joey, Laura and Amanda, with Laura's mother, made 25 turkey, mashed potato and mixed vegetable dinners for Aid for Friends. Pound cake was added for dessert. Thank you to Chef Erich for his help.

Thank you to Christel Birgel for the 17 containers of home-cooked soup and the 5 frozen dinners she delivered to Aid for Friends.

## The Parsonage



On the left:  
The "crew" that helped paint the parsonage garage. Thank you!

On the right:  
John Scholtz and Pastor Hahn making repairs at the parsonage.

The Building Committee is grateful to have a Pastor who is not afraid to lend a helping hand, wherever it is needed.



# How Is The Parsonage Renovation Coming Along?

The Building Committee started work on the Parsonage renovation after the 2016 congregational meeting authorized them to begin work. We spent weeks coordinating contractors and working on competitive proposals, thus saving the congregation from the cost of hiring a general contractor. With help from congregational members, we contacted Philadelphia Gas Works for a new natural gas service to the parsonage. The chimney needed repair and a liner was installed for the new heating system. The old oil boiler and tank were removed and a new efficient gas boiler and hot water heater now heats the house.

We looked at items that needed to be done before winter set in. The old garage door was replaced and the concrete floor, which was in very poor shape, also needed to be poured before it got too cold. The walls and falling ceiling were removed and replaced. A garage painting with pizza party was held on July 1, 2017. (Photos on page 6.)



The parsonage has its unique architecture including many rooms, two-foot thick walls, and of course being such an old house, we found some unforeseen issues with termite damage in the basement which needed repair and treatment. A sewer drainpipe in the basement sprung a leak and needed to be replaced. The electrical service needed to be replaced and the house wiring was also replaced due to decaying insulation of the wiring in the upper floors. We also added smoke detectors to each bedroom for extra safety.

In late fall 2016, we coordinated with one of our contractors to replace the windows and doors. He installed 43 high efficiency windows and three exterior doors and storm doors. This really seals up the house and you can feel the difference on those cold and blustery days.

The committee took advantage of the Black Friday sales and rebates after Thanksgiving to purchase new appliances for the kitchen. The kitchen was remodeled with new cabinets, countertop and flooring. This started work on the interior of the house. All three bathrooms and the powder room were reconstructed with new showers, vanities, toilets and bathtub (Yes, the old heavy cast iron tub on the third floor was removed in one piece). Five interior doors had to be replaced and all the doors

were made operational. Plastering and ceiling repairs were done and on the third floor a special flexible plaster is used on the ceilings to conform to the angled ceilings from the roof.

New 30-year shingles were replaced on the roof and the roof decking (old cedar shingles were found underneath). The gutters and downspouts were replaced, directing water into the city's drainage system.

The landscape around the parsonage has changed. The five pine trees were removed which gives a better frontal view and will warm the house in the winter. The old oak tree on the side of the house needed to be cut down because it was rotten in the center and could have fallen on the parsonage.

We are also working on the porch roofs, giving them a good pitch and gutter system for good water runoff.

Our painting contractor has started on the interior painting. We are also installing carpets in two rooms and the hallway on the third floor. The electricians still need to install some lighting fixtures in the coming weeks.

The committee is still working on an air conditioning proposal and finishing the exterior walls.

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## AUGUST 2017

| Sunday  | Monday    | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday    | Saturday  |
|---|-----------|--|--|--|-----------|---|
|   |           | <b>1</b><br>10 AM: Member Care Team<br><br>12:30 PM Office Staff Meeting<br><br>7 PM: Christian Ed. Team             | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b><br><b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br><br>9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion<br>9:30 AM Sunday School<br>10:30 AM Fellowship<br>11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br>10:00 AM: Worship Planning Team<br><br>12:30 PM Office Staff Meeting<br><br>7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b><br>9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference Meeting  | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br>1:00 – 3:00 PM Water Adventure Fun Fest              |
| <b>13</b><br><b>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br><br>9:30 AM English Service<br>10:15 AM I-SEE<br>11:15 AM German Service<br><br><b>DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER</b>                      | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br>12:30 PM Office Staff Meeting   | <b>16</b><br>11:30 AM Frauenverein<br><br>1:30 PM Social Ministry Team | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b><br>Rain Date<br>1:00 – 3:00 PM Water Adventure Fun Fest |
| <b>20</b><br><b>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</b><br><br>9:30 AM English Service<br>10:15 AM I-SEE<br>11:15 AM German Service   | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>12:30 PM Office Staff Meeting   | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>27</b><br><b>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br><br>9:30 AM English Service<br>10:15 AM I-SEE<br>11:15 AM German Service  | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b><br>12:30 PM Office Staff Meeting<br><br>6:30 PM Remembrance and Celebration of Life (See page 4)           | <b>30</b>  | <b>Coming Events</b><br>September 10<br>“God’s Work-Our Hands” Sunday<br><br>September 17 & October 29<br>225 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations |           |   |