

AUGUST 2019

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

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MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Wonder Park

An animated adventure

Friday, August 2, 2019, 7:45 PM

Please bring a lawn chair or blanket and invite your friends and family.

A donation of a non-perishable food item for the Somerton Food Bank would be very much appreciated.

CONNECTING WITH GOD

From Pastor Hahn

My dear church family!

In his recent newsletter, my trusted consumer advocate, Clark Howard (clark.com), had an article on "Top Tier gasoline." I did not know this existed, so I was curious.



Apparently, AAA did some research and found "significant" differences in the quality of gasoline sold across the country. The differences had to do with so-called "engine-cleaning detergent additives" in gasoline.

The AAA testing lab found that a higher concentration of such additives really do make a difference and are worth the extra price to keep your car healthy. The group is now urging drivers to use a gasoline that meets Top Tier standards for engine cleanliness and performance.

The testing lab reported: "Among brands tested, non-Top Tier gasolines caused 19 times more engine deposits than Top Tier brands after just 4,000 miles of simulated driving. Such carbon deposits are known to reduce fuel economy, increase emissions and negatively impact vehicle performance, particularly on newer vehicles."

On average, Top Tier gasoline is only three cents per gallon more expensive than non-Top Tier gasoline, but it is worth it! (Contact me if you want a copy of the list of Top Tier gasolines.)

Why am I talking about "Top Tier gasoline"?

Because it sounds so similar to what can be called "Top Tier spiritual food."

Contrary to what the summer season signals and to what might be good for body and mind, the human spirit, our holy core, our faith is NOT well served by inactivity, breaks, pauses or spiritual junk food.

What is good for your soul, your faith, and your spiritual life is this:

- Weekly worship of God
- Daily prayer
- Daily Bible reading/study
- Generous giving
- Acts of kindness



Don't settle for anything less this August.

Practice Top Tier spirituality: attend morning or evening worship, pray for me and your church family, engage God's Word, mail your offering to the church office, do something kind for somebody. Give thanks to God!

In Christ,
Pastor Hahn

EKD-Friedensbeauftragter: Populismus entgegentreten

Der [Friedensbeauftragte der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland \(EKD\)](#), [Renke Brahms](#), warnt vor Polarisierungen und Spaltungen in der Gesellschaft.

„In Europa droht eine Spaltung zwischen denen, die sich abschotten und nationale bis nationalistische Gedanken in den Vordergrund rücken und denen, die an der Idee eines solidarischen Europas festhalten“, erklärte Brahms in Magdeburg auf dem traditionellen Ökumenischen Empfang der Kirchen.

In den **Magdeburger Dom** waren 200 Gäste aus Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft geladen, darunter auch Sachsen-Anhalts Ministerpräsident Reiner Haseloff (CDU). Brahms sagte weiter, es gehe um die Stärkung des Gemeinsamen und des Gemeinwohls: „Die Einsicht, dass die Herausforderungen nur gemeinsam zu bewältigen sind und nicht gegen-einander, ist die Grundvoraussetzung für einen nachhaltigen Frieden.“

Viele kennen nur noch schwarz-weiß Um populistischen und spalterischen Entwicklungen entgegen zu wirken, „bedarf es der sachlichen, fachlichen Auseinandersetzung, der Entlarvung der verdrehten Argumente, des Faktenchecks“ sowie der „Leidenschaft für die Vielfalt, für eine plurale Gesellschaft und für die Demokratie“, betonte der Theologe.

Viele Menschen seien unsicher geworden, fühlten sich ohnmächtig, so Brahms. Dies führte zu einer Komplexitätsverweigerung und zu Vereinfachungen, die nur noch schwarz-weiß kennen, und zu „Abschottungen gegenüber Fremden und Fremdem und ist auch eine Wurzel des Rückzuges auf das je nur Eigene - bis hin zum offenen Hass und Gewalt“.

Der EKD-Friedensbeauftragte appellierte: „Wenn wir Zukunft in Frieden gestalten wollen, dürfen wir nicht den Vereinfachern das Feld überlassen und zeigen, dass wir Zukunft gestalten können.“



Frieden

Was kann die Kirche zum Frieden in der Welt beitragen? Über die drängenden Fragen des Friedens wollen EKD-Synodale, Wissenschaftler und friedensbewegte Menschen ins Gespräch kommen – unter dem Motto „Auf dem Weg zu einer Kirche der Gerechtigkeit und des Friedens“. Dieser führt hin zur EKD-Synode 2019, die sich dem Schwerpunktthema Frieden widmet.

(Ask Pastor Hahn for an English version.)

Worship SCHEDULE



- All worship services, this summer, will be held in the Nave.
- Holy Communion will be celebrated at both services on the first Sunday of the month.
- One bilingual service will be held at 10:00 AM on the remaining Sundays.
- A sermon follow-up will be held at 11:15 AM in the lower classroom for anyone wishing to explore the implications of the morning's message for our lives and our life together.

August 4 - 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion

11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion

August 11, 18 & 25 - 10:00 AM Bilingual Service

11:15 AM Sermon Follow-up conversation

September 1 - 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion

11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion

September 8 - *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*

10:30 AM Bilingual Service

Normal worship schedule resumes on September 15.

BAPTISM - JULY 7, 2019



Congratulations! **Kai** was baptized on Sunday, July 7 at Immanuel, and became a child of God and a member of Christ's church as well as a member of the Immanuel church family. Pictured are (from left to right): Pastor Hahn, Kai's mom, (holding Kai), and Kai's Godparents.

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Amy and Luke on the birth of their son, Connor Stewart, on June 29th, weighing 7 lbs., 6 ozs. and 20.5 inches long.

MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Friday, August 2, 2019
7:45 PM (Rain or Shine)

Wonder Park

An animated adventure about a girl who learns the amusement park of her dreams exists and when the park runs into trouble, she and her animal friends are able to save the park. The movie is recommended for all ages.

Bring your lawn chair or blanket. Refreshments will be provided.
(Please, no alcoholic beverages are permitted.)

A donation of a non-perishable food item for the Somerton Food Bank would be greatly appreciated.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

THANK YOU!

Each month during the summer our Social Ministry focus has been on a specific need. In June, our focus was the **Philadelphia Protestant Home**. A total of 560 personal items were received, surpassing last year's total.

In July, the focus was the **Somerton Food Bank**. In August, it will be the **Seamen's Church Institute**. (See below.)

HELP THOSE WHO GIVE US SO MUCH!

Every year, Seamen's Church Institute assembles and distributes thousands of "ditty bags" to seafarers in our Delaware River port between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Immanuel will be collecting these items during the month of August.



Seafarers come from all over the world to deliver 90% of our goods and produce. Their job is lonely and sometimes dangerous, and they are away from home for 9 to 12 months at a time.

PLEASE HELP US PROVIDE A SMALL GIFT OF THANKS TO THEM!

WISH LIST FOR DITTY BAGS

Hats and scarves in dark colors**
Work socks and work gloves
Mini sewing kit
Pens and writing paper
Small calendars

Razors and shaving cream
Toothbrush and toothpaste
Shampoo and comb
Deodorant, nail clippers
Full sizes, please, for toiletries

This is a Thrivent Financial sponsored event.

** The "Scarves for the Seafarers" mentioned in the June newsletter can be turned in now or any time up until December.

MANY LETTERS OF THANKS SHOW THAT IMMANUEL DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Dear Pastor & Congregation,

The Board of Directors and Volunteer staff at **Somerton Interfaith Food Bank** would like to thank you for your donations of \$1,060.00 and non-perishable foods for the first and second quarter of this year. We are grateful for your help as we continue to provide a needed service to the community.

We thank you for being a friend of the Food Bank.

Sincerely,
Compton Chase



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$2,028.00 to **ELCA World Hunger**.

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above" (James 1:17a).

Your generous gift is enabling transformative works of love here in the United States and in 60 countries around the world, providing what is needed to end hunger and poverty: access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Together, we are creatively and courageously working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our neighbors around the world.

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 PM Council	2 10:00 AM Member Care Team Meeting 7:45PM Movie Night Under the Stars (Page 5)	3
4 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion 6:30 PM Evening Service	5	6 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Christian Events Team	7	8	9	10
11 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Bilingual Service 11:15 AM Sermon follow-up 6:30 PM Evening Service	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Bilingual Service 11:15 AM Sermon follow-up 6:30 PM Evening Service Newsletter Deadline	19	20	21 12:00 Noon Frauenverein	22	23 9:30 AM Newsletter Mailing	24
25 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM Bilingual Service 11:15 AM Sermon follow-up 6:30 PM Evening Service	26	27 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Finance Team	28	29	30	31