

MARCH 2017

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

14100 WORTHINGTON ROAD

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19116

Phone: 215-464-1540

www.immanuelphilly.org

Immanuel Newsletter GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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LENT



*Doing Good Deeds for
Jesus*

ELCA World Hunger's

40 DAYS of Giving

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Music Director:	James M. Clements, Ed.D.	215-938-1852	
Secretary:	Diane Burgess	215-464-1540	office@immanuelphilly.org
Council President:	Stewart Blankenhorn	215-947-5079	

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING TIMES, LEADERS

Choir	TBA		Dr. James M. Clements
Church Council	2 nd Monday	7:00 PM	Stewart Blankenhorn
Christian Education Team	1 st Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eileen Szentjobi
Frauenverein	3 rd Wednesday	11:30 AM	Marianne Haug
German Circle/Deutscher Kreis	1 st Sunday	7:00 PM	Ruth Muggler
Bible Study	Wednesdays	10:00 AM & 7:00 PM	Pastor Hahn
Girl Scouts	Wednesdays	7:00 PM	Nancy Smith
Handbell Choir	TBA		Dr. James M. Clements
Immanuel German School	Saturdays	9:30 AM	Dr. Del Hausman
Ladies' Guild	2 nd Tuesday	7:30 PM	Barbara Hannon
Sunday School	Sundays	9:30 AM	Eileen Szentjobi
Women's Book Club	TBA		Judy Friedman
Youth Group	1 st Sunday	11:00 AM	Chris Blankenhorn and Eileen Szentjobi

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF

Diane Burgess David W. Cook Pastor Norbert F. Hahn Marianne Haug

Writing an article or just making a comment, we want to hear what you have to say.

Send articles, comments and questions to: IELC.newsletter@comcast.net

IMMANUEL'S CAFE

Thanks to Gisela Bernhardt, Barbara Hannon, Pastor Hahn, Erich Weiss, Ruth Muggler and Nancy Scholtz for hosting the Coffee Hours in February.

Coffee hour hosts are always needed. If you are able to host any of the coffee hours, please sign up on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

CONNECTING WITH GOD



From the Pastor

Do you remember Sunday, February 5? It was a big day for sports enthusiasts and an important day for our church family.

Football fans, of course, enjoyed the Super Bowl; with New England Patriots fans having a bit more fun since their team won.

Closer to home, the Immanuel church family supported our youth group's "Souper Bowl" (that is not a misspelling) generously with 179 food items and \$348 in donations—the highest ever! We also welcomed six new members into our church family and conducted a smooth congregation meeting. Thank you for your support!

A sports reporter on the radio commented on a sign he saw in the Patriot's locker room. As best as I can remember, it went like this: "Do what is best for the team, even if it means a sacrifice on your part." It is not unlikely that this stratagem played a role in the Patriots' come-from-behind win over the Atlanta Falcons.

As I listen to colleagues, read relevant literature, and watch educational videos, one theme surfaces again and again: Declining and dying churches have very few individuals willing to make personal (i.e. emotional, financial, time, change) sacrifices for the good of the church and its future well-being.

How blessed our church family is that we have a strong contingent of individuals who are already willing to make sacrifices for the future well-being of our ministry and mission and another group wrestling with the idea.

We may not win a trophy for our sacrifices, but Jesus saying, "Well done, faithful servants!" sounds like reward enough.

God's Peace,

Pastor Hahn

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

Ordination Celebration



At the Sunday Worship Service on February 19, 2017 Immanuel celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Pastor Hahn's ordination, followed by a "German Style Brunch"..

Installation Service for Pastor Hahn

Please take note

Sunday, March 26, 2017

there will be

no morning worship

The Service of Installation for Pastor Hahn will begin at **2:00 PM** followed by a celebration.

All are invited.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHURCH

On Ash Wednesday, we will begin the season of Lent, the season traditionally associated with “sacrifices” or “giving up something.” Why not practice sacrificing something for the good of the team/church? If you need an idea, Pastor will gladly make a suggestion or two.

EASTER MEMORIAL GIFTS

If you would like to donate lilies for our Easter service, or donate a special memorial gift, please use the form available on the information table.

Deadline April 1, 2017.

MID-WEEK WORSHIP DURING LENT

An interest survey conducted at both worship services on Sunday, February 12 revealed enough interest for a mid-day Lenten service. Here is the schedule:

- 11:30 Worship
- 12:15 Light Lunch

Interest for an evening service was too light. However, if you are interested in such a service but could not provide input on February 12, please call or email the church office and make your vote count.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES FOR 2017

Ash Wednesday March 1

11:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion
12:30 PM Soup lunch

6:30 PM Soup dinner
7:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion

Weekly on Wednesday

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5

11:30 AM Worship Service
12:15 PM Light lunch

7:30 PM Worship Service
(If enough interest is shown – See above)

Palm Sunday April 9

10:30 AM Combined Service with
Confirmation Reunion and
procession with palms

Maundy Thursday / Holy Thursday / *Gründonnerstag* April 13

11:30 AM Communion Service followed
by a light lunch and fellowship

7:30 PM Communion Service followed
by a light meal and fellowship

Good Friday / *Karfreitag* April 14

11:30 AM English Service
3:00 PM German Service with Holy Communion
7:30 PM English Service - Tenebrae

Easter Saturday April 15

6:30 PM Easter Fire and Fellowship
7:30 PM Easter Vigil worship

Easter Sunday / *Ostersonntag* April 16

9:15 AM English Festival Service
with Holy Communion
10:30 AM Fellowship
11:00 AM Deutscher Festgottesdienst
mit Hl. Abendmahl

Neue EKD-Studie: Deutsche wollen Fluechtlingen weiter helfen

Mehrere bundesweite Umfragen haben im Auftrag der Evangelischen Kirchen in Deutschland (EKD) die positiven Erfahrungen und konkreten Sorgen erforscht, die die Bundesbuerger mit der Aufnahme von Fluechtlingen verbinden. Hier die wichtigsten Ergebnisse:

1. Die Bevölkerung im westlichen Bundesgebiet tendiert seit Februar 2016 eher zum Positiven. Im östlichen Bundesgebiet überwiegt die skeptische Stimmung deutlich.
2. Nach wie vor unterstreichen die allermeisten Befragten, dass Deutschland mit der Aufnahme von Flüchtlingen Menschen in existenzieller Not zur Seite steht.
3. Eine Mehrheit der Bevölkerung verbindet mit den in Deutschland angekommenen Geflüchteten auch die Chance, Bereicherndes für den eigenen Alltag zu entdecken.
4. Inzwischen haben knapp zwei Drittel der Bevölkerung schon eigene Erfahrungen im Kontakt zu Flüchtlingen gemacht. Bei den Befragten mit Kontakt übersteigt der Anteil der positiven Erfahrungen mit Geflüchteten die negativen um ein Mehrfaches.
5. Die Bereitschaft zum Engagement ist nach wie vor sehr hoch: Insgesamt können sich drei Viertel der Befragten die eine oder andere persönliche Unterstützung der Geflüchteten vorstellen.
6. Die große Mehrheit der Befragten (69 %) spricht sich auch im August 2016 dafür aus, dass sich die evangelische Kirche für die Aufnahme der Flüchtlinge einsetzen soll.

New Study by German Church: Germans want to help refugees

Several nation-wide research studies, commissioned by the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD), investigated the positive experiences and concrete concerns of German citizens in regards to welcoming and integrating refugees. Here are the most important results:

1. Since February 2016, attitudes of citizens in the western parts of Germany are becoming more and more positive. Citizens in the eastern parts are significantly more skeptical.
2. The great majority of survey participants are convinced that by welcoming refugees, Germany actively reaches out to people who are in grave danger and great need.
3. For the majority of German citizens, the newly arrived refugees provide opportunities to enrich their own lives and widen their own horizons.
4. By now, about two-thirds of the population has had personal contact with refugees. The great majority of those interviewed has had positive experiences and encounters with refugees; negative experiences are reported by a minority.
5. The survey reveals a high level of willingness of people to get personally involved. About 75% of respondents can see themselves committing to one type of refugee support or another.
6. The great majority (69%) of those surveyed in August of 2016 is in favor of the Protestant Church's advocacy on behalf of refugee acceptance and welcome.

More at www.ekd.de/themen/fluechtlinge/index.html

Welcome New Members



On February 5, 2017, we officially welcomed six new members into our church family.

Colin was baptized into the Immanuel family on Sunday, February 12, 2017.



CONNECTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The 30th Annual Assembly of The Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be held on May 5th & 6th at the Franconia Mennonite Church on Harleysville Pike (Rt 113) in Telford PA. We can send three delegates. Anyone who is interested in attending should let Stewart Blankenhorn or Pastor Hahn know by Sunday, March 12th.

COMING IN MARCH A NEW LOOK

Immanuel's website has been redesigned

Check out our new look.

Beginning in March, Immanuel's website (www.immanuelphilly.org) will finally get its facelift. There will be more pictures, up-to-date information and easy access. It will be compatible with computer, tablet and phone.



There will also be access to our new "On-Line Giving." One click and your donations can be made electronically from your bank or by credit card. It could be a one-time gift or donate weekly or monthly.

HAM SUPPER



The **Ham Supper** will take place on Saturday, **April 1, 2017**, from 3:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

We would like to have cakes for the Sweet Shop and donations for the Bazaar, such as crafts or slightly used articles.

NOAH'S ARK

I am not afraid of tomorrow for I have seen yesterday and I love today. Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark ...



1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat!
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage, the snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
11. No matter the storm, there's **always** a rainbow waiting.
12. Remember, most people walk in and out of your life, but friends leave footprints in your heart.

Submitted by Margret Rommel

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Join the Journey

Journey through Lent with ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, a special opportunity to lift up the church's hunger and poverty ministry.

Martin Luther's concern for the poor and his sharp rebuke of economic injustice laid the foundation for us today, to see the many ways our faith calls us to strive for justice in our world. In this, the 500th year since the Reformation, Luther's call for economic justice is more pressing than ever.

In the United States, 46.7 million Americans live in poverty and 795 million people around the world do not know where their next meal is coming from.

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, our gifts will help our church work toward a world of justice in which all are fed. This year our Lenten self-denial offering will go to World Hunger. Our goal is \$3,200.

Join the journey. Sign-up to receive daily devotions in your email inbox during Lent at:

elca.org/40days

Immanuel will also have devotional booklets for people who do not use email.



CHARLIE THE CHURCH MOUSE

A lady hurried to the pharmacy to get medication, got back to her car, and found that she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground. She looked at it and said, "I don't know how to use this." She bowed her head and asked God to send her some help.

Within five minutes, a beat-up motorcycle pulled up driven by a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. He got off of his cycle and asked if he could help. The lady said, "Yes, my daughter is sick and I've locked my keys in my car. I must get home. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?"

"Sure," he said. He walked over to the car and in less than a minute, the car door was open. She hugged him and through tears softly said, "Thanks, God, for sending me such a very nice man."

The man heard her little prayer and replied, "Lady, I'm not a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday; I was in prison for car theft." The woman hugged the man again, sobbing, "Oh, thank you, God! You even sent me a professional!"

Is God great or what!?!

WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Immanuel has received many thank you letters for our gifts over the holidays including the Philadelphia Protestant Home thanking the Ladies Guild; Ken Crest thanking the German Circle for their gift of \$100; Somerton Food Bank thanking the German Circle for their gift of \$200 and the Youth Group for their gift of \$66.00; Women of the ELCA thanking us for our gift of \$800.00; the Synod for \$12,000 mission support and the letter on page 11.



LINUS DAY PROJECT
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Please take advantage of this early notice and mark your calendars to attend on this day. Everyone is invited to come help or learn how to make blankets/quilts for children in hospitals. No fee or cost involved.

Any questions, please contact Barbara Hannon or Alma Dallas.

POT PIES

The Ladies' Guild will be selling Pot Pies in April. The order and money may be turned in to the office or Barbara Hannon no later than Sunday, April 23, 2017.

The Pot Pies can be picked up on Saturday, April 29th between 11:15 AM and 12:00 noon.

Order forms can be found on the information table. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara (215-637-8478).

CAUGHT DOING MINISTRY



Thank you to Christel and Matt Birgel; Sylvia, Eric and Alexander Hansen; Stewart Blankenhorn; and Pastor and Lyn Hahn for taking down and storing the Christmas decorations.



Thank you to Theo Sawadski for repairing the faucets in the kitchen.

Youth Group



A HUGE thank you to our generous church members from the Youth Group! On Sunday, February 5th, we collected food and monetary donations for **Souper Bowl of Caring 2017**. We received 179 food items and \$348.00. Our donations were

delivered to The Somerton Food Bank and were gratefully accepted. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthwhile cause!

A Different Kind of St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Friday, March 17, 2017
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM



Please join us for a safer and meaningful, yet fun celebration, as we celebrate an evening that will include traditional Irish food, listen to Irish music and learn about the history of St. Patrick's Day. Since we will be providing a meal, please RSVP by either calling the office or go to www.HillHappenings.org to make your reservation.

We hope you can join us for this event. Don't forget to wear your green! Please feel free to donate a canned food item to help support our local food bank.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Coming Events						
April 1 – Ham Supper April 29 – Linus Day			1 ASH WEDNESDAY 11:30 AM Service with Holy Communion 12:30 PM Soup Lunch 6:30 PM Soup Dinner 7:30 PM Service with Holy Communion 7:30 PM Confirmation Class	2	3	4 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
5 First Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion 11:00 AM Youth Group 7:00 PM German Circle	6	7 10:00 AM Member Care Team Mtg. 12:00 Noon Worship Team Mtg. 7:00 PM Christian Ed. Team Mtg.	8 11:30 AM Lenten Services 12:15 PM Light Lunch 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	9 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference Meeting 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	10	11 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
12 Second Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM English Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service Deadline for April Newsletter	13 7:00 PM Church Council	14 7:30 PM Ladies' Guild	15 11:30 AM Lenten Services 12:15 PM Light Lunch 1:30 PM Social Ministry Team meeting 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	16 7:00 PM Confirmation Class 7:30 Choir	17 6:30 PM St. Patrick Day Event	18 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
19 Third Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM English Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Teen Discussion Group 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service	20	21	22 11:30 AM Lenten Services 12:15 PM Light Lunch 12:30 PM Frauenverein 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	23 7:00 PM Confirmation Class 7:30 Choir	24	25 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
26 Fourth Sunday in Lent No morning service 2:00 PM Service of Installation and Celebration for Pastor Norbert Hahn	27	28	29 11:30 AM Lenten Services 12:15 PM Light Lunch 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	30 7:00 PM Confirmation Class	31	