

MARCH 2019

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

Table of Contents

CONNECTING WITH GOD

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Lenten Worship Schedule | Pg. 3 |
| From Pastor Hahn | Pg. 4 |
| World-Wide Day of Prayer | Pg. 5 |

CONNECTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Movie "Noah" | Pg. 6 |
| St. Patrick's Day | Pg. 7 |
| Kid's Connection | Pg. 7 |

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Social Ministry | Pg. 8 |
| World Hunger 40 Days of Giving | Pg. 8 |
| Immanuel German School | Pg. 9 |
| Calendar | Pg. 10 |

Enjoy the St. Patrick's Day Celebration Saturday, March 16, 6:30 PM



The Christian Events Team of Immanuel invites members, friends, and neighbors of our church family to a special celebration of this *spiritual/secular holiday*. Enjoy treats, entertainment, music, and more.

There is no charge for this event as it is supported by Thrivent Financial. However, please bring a non-perishable food item for the Somerton Food Bank. (Doors open at 6 PM)

Invite a friend!

Spread the word!

Bring a neighbor!

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

14100 Worthington Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116

Telephone: 215-464-1540 FAX: 215-677-2433

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Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

| | | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------|--|
| Ministers: | Members and Friends of the Congregation | | |
| Pastor: | Rev. Norbert F. Hahn, Ph.D. | 215-464-1540 | PastorHahnILC@gmail.com |
| Secretary: | Diane Burgess | 215-464-1540 | office@immanuelphilly.org |
| Council President: | Barbara Hannon | 215-637-8478 | |

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING TIMES, LEADERS

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Bible Study | Wednesdays | 10:00 AM, 7:00 PM | Pastor Hahn |
| Choir | As needed | | Dr. James M. Clements |
| Congregation Council | 3 rd Monday | 7:00 PM | Barbara Hannon |
| Christian Event Team | 1 ST Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Eileen Szentjobi |
| Finance Team | 4 th Tuesday | 7:00 PM | David W. Cook |
| Frauenverein | 3 rd Wednesday | 12:00 Noon | Marianne Haug |
| German Circle/Deutscher Kreis | 1 st Sunday | 7:00 PM | Ruth Muggler |
| Girl Scouts | Wednesdays | 7:00 PM | Nancy Smith |
| Hand Bell Choir | As needed | | Dr. James M. Clements |
| Immanuel German School | Saturdays | 9:30 AM | Dr. Del Hausman |
| Ladies' Guild | 2 nd Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Barbara Hannon |
| Member Care Team | 1 ST Tuesday | 10:00 AM | Judy Friedman |
| Mutual Ministry Team | TBA | | John Scholtz |
| Social Ministry Team | 3 rd Wednesday | 12:30 PM | Michele Cook |
| Sunday School | Sundays | 9:30 AM | Eileen Szentjobi |
| Women's Book Club | TBA | | Judy Friedman |
| Worship Planning Team | 2 nd Monday | 10:00 AM | Dr. James M. Clements |
| Youth Group | TBA | | Chris Blankenhorn and Eileen Szentjobi |

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF

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

Send information or questions to IELC.newsletter@comcast.net.

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.

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Worship SCHEDULE



March 6 - Ash Wednesday

Worship services today will include the imposition of ashes at 11:30am and 7:30pm. The morning service will be followed by a soup luncheon and the evening service will follow a soup supper at 6:30pm.

Mid-week Lenten Services

During the season of Lent, services will be held every Wednesday morning at 11:30.

A Cappella Sunday

On March 10, we will join congregations around the country by worshipping a cappella (without instrumental accompaniment). For thousands of years this was the mainstay of the church's song. Psalm 96 tells us to „sing a new song to the Lord,“ which we will do so a cappella.

Women's History Month Celebration

On March 31, we will celebrate Women's History Month in both services. The theme of our worship will be „Women of the Reformation.“



SPECIAL MUSIC

On January 3, 2019, twenty-three members of Immanuel formed a choir to provide special music for the worship service.

They sang
“Make Me a Servant,”
Words & Music:
by Kelly Willard, 1982.

From Pastor Hahn

Recently, during a sermon on how, in their baptisms, all of God's children have been blessed with special spiritual gifts for the work of Christ in the world, I invited the listeners to let me know after the service, if they would be willing to give 15 or 30 minutes per week to help move our congregation forward. The response was truly amazing!

And help is, indeed, needed, because God is "on the move" at Immanuel. The Holy Spirit is doing something special with us and to us. Even if you only pay attention to worship, you notice that worship participation is up. At least three times in January and February, over 100 persons were at Sunday worship.

If you look at little deeper, you can see more signs of God at work at Immanuel. For example, the new children's ministry, "Kid's Connection," has not only dedicated leaders and helpers but a steady flow of children both from within the congregation and the community. And the intergenerational Confirmation class is full of energy.

Also, more and more members and friends of Immanuel are supporting the Somerton Food Bank and our ministry with Aid for Friends. Often, this happens with individual initiative and ingenuity.

Another sign of the Holy Spirit's stirring is the increasing financial generosity of many at Immanuel: For 2019, nearly all council members and over 50% of members and friends have increased their estimate of giving.

God is on the move at Immanuel. Ministry is getting done. Lives are touched in meaningful ways. People make meaningful contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Yet, God invites us to reach higher.

To do all which God has laid before us, Immanuel launched the "21 Days of Prayer" between February 10 and March 3. You should have received information in the mail which included a sample prayer. We are asking God to grow the

generosity in our congregation so that needs which are currently unmet will be met and God's Will and Work can be done.

Thanks for your prayers and participation.

Pastor Hahn

Take Your Spiritual Vitamins: Study the Word of God!

Bible study/conversation resumes on Wednesday, March 13 at 10 AM and 7 PM. (NO Bible study/conversation on Ash Wednesday, March 6).
Give it try! Just listen in, if you like.



Celebrate "Fat Tuesday" Tuesday, March 5, 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

You know the words: "Mardi Gras, Carnival, Fastnacht."

They relate to the season of partying and frolicking that began on 11/11 at 11:11 AM and culminates on the weekend before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the solemn season of Lent. Marking this transition are events on Fat Tuesday.

The Member Care Team of Immanuel is offering our own version of a Fat Tuesday celebration with treats, entertainment, and more. **There is no charge for this event but please bring a non-perishable item for the Somerton Food Bank. Bring a friend!**

Never Miss Worship Again: Come in the morning or evening!

Immanuel's new Sunday evening service has already seen close to 30 worshipers, including persons who missed the morning worship but came to worship God in the evening. **Evening worship begins at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you!**

Christliche Frauen laden ein zum Weltgebetstag

Der Weltgebetstag am 1. März soll ein Zeichen für ein gemeinsames Abendmahl setzen. „Die Trennung der Konfessionen am Tisch des Herrn ist für die im Weltgebetstag engagierten Frauen ein unerträglicher Zustand, denn sie stellt die Glaubwürdigkeit der christlichen Kirchen und Gemeinschaften infrage“, erklärte das deutsche Weltgebetstags-Komitee in Stein bei Nürnberg.

„Wir rufen auf, mit uns rund um den 1. März 2019 zu beten für das gemeinsame Abendmahl und für eine gerechte Welt, in der alle Menschen mit am Tisch sitzen - unabhängig von ihrer Hautfarbe, Herkunft, Alter, sexueller Orientierung und Religion“, erklärte das Komitee.

Der Weltgebetstag gilt als weltweit größte Basis-Bewegung christlicher Frauen. In Deutschland laden dazu elf Mitgliedsorganisationen aus verschiedenen christlichen Konfessionen ein. Der Aktionstag soll Christinnen und Christen unterschiedlicher Konfessionen in Gebet und Handeln für Frieden, Gerechtigkeit und Frauenrechte verbinden.

Die Gebete, Texte und Lieder stammen in diesem Jahr von Frauen aus Slowenien. „Für Christinnen und Christen überall auf der Welt sind ihre Worte auch die Einladung zur eucharistischen Tisch-Gemeinschaft, die wir immer noch nicht mit allen Konfessionen gemeinsam feiern können“, so das Weltgebetstags-Komitee.

Zu den einladenden Organisationen gehören: Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft Mennonitischer Gemeinden in Deutschland, der Bund alt-katholischer Frauen, die Frauenseelsorge in den deutschen Diözesen, das Forum Frauen im Bund Evangelisch-Freikirchlicher Gemeinden in Deutschland, der Bundesverband der Gemeindefreferent/-innen Deutschlands, die Heilsarmee, die Evangelische Brüderunität - Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine, die Evangelischen Frauen in Deutschland, das Frauenwerk der Evangelisch-methodistischen Kirche, der Katholische Deutsche Frauenbund und die Katholische Frauengemeinschaft Deutschlands. (Mehr unter ekd.de)

Christian Women Issue An Open Invitation for the World-Wide Day of Prayer

Organizers of the World-Wide Day of Prayer, scheduled for March 1, hope that the event will be a significant step “towards overcoming the walls that separate different branches of the Christian family when it comes to Holy Communion.” In the view of the organizing committee, in Stein (near Nuernberg,) this separation is an unbearable condition as it makes the Christian churches and faith communities appear inauthentic.”



The committee calls on Christians everywhere to “pray with them, on March 1, 2019, for inclusive Communion practices and for a just world where all people have a seat at the table, no matter the color of their skin, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or religion.”

The World-Wide Day of Prayer is considered the largest grass-roots movement of Christian women. In Germany, eleven women’s groups from different denominations are issuing a joint invitation. They hope that this day of (prayer-) action will strengthen the connections between male and female Christians from different denominations as the advocate for peace, justice, and women’s rights.

This year’s songs and texts for the day were prepared by women from Slovenia. According to the organizing committee, “their words are also an invitation to a globally shared Eucharistic table fellowship from which some denominations are still excluded.

The event is sponsored by a variety of German organizations with Mennonite, Catholic, Free Church, Salvation Army, Herrnhuter, Methodist, and Mainline Protestant roots.

More information at www.ekd.de.

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

“Sight and Sound Theatre”
is showing their production of

NOAH



in Movie Theatres in April.
Please let us know if you would like
to join us on Thursday, April 11th.

We are planning to attend the evening show at
Neshaminy AMC Theatre.

Please reserve your spot soon, seating is limited!

Contact Judy Friedman, 267-343-3606.



Immanuel's St. Patrick's Day Celebration
Saturday, March 16, 2019
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM



Join us for a safer and more meaningful St. Patrick's Day celebration. The evening will include a traditional Irish dinner, Irish music, along with some other fun activities!

There is no charge for this event as it is supported by Thrivent Financial. However, since we will be providing a meal, please RSVP by calling the office at 215-464-1540 or go to www.HillHappenings.org to make your reservation by March 13th.



Please help support the Somerton Food Bank and donate a canned food item. Thank you!
We hope you can join us for this fun event.

Don't forget to wear something

GREEN!



IMMANUEL'S KIDS CONNECTION

Immanuel's Kids Connection was held on Sunday, February 10, 2019. We celebrated the love of Jesus. There were stories, crafts and treats. We finished with a light dinner.



Future events will be announced. The events are geared for children ages 3 through 10. We do request that one adult from each family attend. So that we know how to plan, let us know your interest to attend by e-mailing us at office@immanuelphilly.org with the names and ages of each child and number of adults attending.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

SOCIAL MINISTRY



Thank you for your gifts to the Somerton Food Bank on Super Bowl Sunday. Special thanks to the smart shoppers who found the supermarket selling cans of Progresso soup for 28% the normal price, if 12 cans were purchased. We were able to donate over 100 cans of soup.



Frozen soups donated to Aid for Friends

ELCA WORLD HUNGER 40 DAYS OF GIVING Journey through Lent

ELCA World Hunger is our church's ministry to end hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States.

The world provides enough food for all, but millions of people around the world face chronic hunger. This Lent we are saving for **A Just World Where All Are Fed.**

The World Food Bank estimates 766 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day.

Please consider supporting the work of ELCA World Hunger beyond your typical offerings. Consider using a 40 Days of Giving coin jar. We will have a jar for you to use or you may have a mason jar we gave you a few years ago for the Lenten offerings. We suggest \$2.00 a day to fight hunger and poverty.

Jars and devotional booklets will be available Ash Wednesday, March 6.



IMMANUEL GERMAN SCHOOL

Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia

We are pleased to announce the establishment of two new scholarships for our K through 12 program. Thanks to the generous contributions of the families of **George Shuster** and **James Seifert**, we will be able to offer *free tuition* to the Immanuel German School to several deserving students each year. It is the wish of both donors that there be a special emphasis on using these scholarships to recruit students who otherwise would not attend IGS.



If you are interested in applying, please click on the link below. Deadline for applications is April 15, 2019. Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 15th, 2019.

Link to Scholarship <https://goo.gl/forms/cAhPI6zLOBNPg2ua2>

About our school: The Immanuel German School / Deutsche Sprachschule Philadelphia has been teaching the German language and culture of the German-speaking countries for over forty years. Our students participate in the **National German Exam** program of the American Association of Teachers of German as well as the **Internationale schulische Vergleichsarbeit** on both the A1 and A2 levels. Certify your knowledge of German and receive college credit by taking the College Board's **Advanced Placement German Language & Culture Exam**. Earn the **Deutsches Sprachdiplom** (German Language Diploma) and show that your German is sufficient to study at a German university.

The Immanuel German School offers classes for children and young people ages 4-18 as well as four levels for adults. We are a PASCH-Schule, are founding members of the German Language School Conference and work closely with the Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen. Above all, we firmly believe that Deutsch Lernen macht Spaß (Learning German is fun.) For more information, please visit our website

www.theimmanuelgermanschool.org

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 9:00 AM Member Care Team | 2 9:30 AM IGS at LMHS |
| 3 10:30 AM Combined Worship Service with Holy Communion followed by Annual Congregational Meeting 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:00 PM German Circle 7:10 PM What Lutherans REALLY Believe | 4 | 5 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM Fat Tuesday Celebration | 6 ASH WEDNESDAY 11:30 AM Service (followed by soup lunch) 7:30 PM Service (preceded by soup supper). | 7 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference Meeting | 8 | 9 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS |
| 10 A Cappella Sunday 9:30 AM English Service 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service 5:00 PM Kids Connection 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:10 PM What Lutherans REALLY Believe | 11 | 12 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 2:00 PM Worship Team meeting | 13 10:00 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Lenten Service with soup lunch 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts | 14 9:30 AM Dean's Meeting IGS written Sprachdiplom test in the conference room | 15 | 16 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS 6:00 PM St. Paddy's Celebration |
| 17 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 7:10 PM What Lutherans REALLY Believe | 18 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Council | 19 1:00 PM Staff Meeting | 20 10:00 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Lenten Service with soup lunch 12:00 Noon Frauenverein 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts | 21 | 22 9:30 AM Newsletter Mailing | 23 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS |
| 24 9:30 AM English Service 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:10 PM What Lutherans REALLY Believe | 25 | 26 1:00 PM Staff Meeting | 27 10:00 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Lenten Service with soup lunch 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Women of the Reformation 9:30 AM English Service 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service 6:30 PM Evening Service 7:10 PM What Lutherans REALLY Believe | | | | Coming in April Saturday, April 6 - Ham Supper Thursday, April 11 – Movie “Noah” Saturday, April 20 – Easter Egg Hunt Friday, May 6 – Women’s Event | | |