

MAY 2018

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

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS

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LADIES' NIGHT Friday, May 11, 2018.



Dinner will be at 6:30 PM
Our topic will be "God's Garden".
There will be a guest speaker and
take-home project following the meal.

IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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

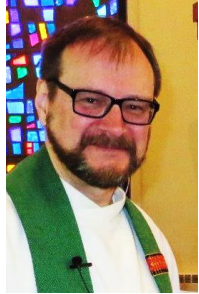
Bible Study	Wednesdays	10:00 AM, 7:00 PM	Pastor Hahn
Choir	As needed		Dr. James M. Clements
Congregation Council	2 nd Monday	7:00 PM	Barbara Hannon
Christian Event Team	1 st Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eileen Szentjobi
Finance Team	As needed		David W. Cook
Frauenverein	3 rd Wednesday	12:00 Noon	Marianne Haug
German 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 Tuesday	10:00 AM	Pastor Hahn
Youth Group	TBA		Chris Blankenhorn and Eileen Szentjobi

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF

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

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



From Pastor Hahn:

Recently, our church family had the joyous occasion to welcome a new brother and a new sister into our fellowship: Jessica Bednarek, a young adult, and Jayden Mo, a small child,

were baptized on Easter Sunday and became members of our church and the church worldwide. We rejoice with them and pray for them.

Also, five young people received their First Holy Communion: Robby Eppinger and Kaitlyn Turnbull celebrated this special occasion on Maundy Thursday, the holy day set aside in the Christian calendar to remember the Last Supper and the institution of the Holy Meal by Christ. Three others, Stephanie Harkins, Alexander Mo, and Jessica Bednarek took this step on Easter Sunday. We rejoice with them and pray for them.

The sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion are central to our Lutheran faith. In them God gives God-self to us without consideration of whether we deserve it, have earned it, are good enough to receive it. It's all about divine love, grace, and initiative. It's also about who we are and whose we are.

Baptism is the beginning of our love connection with God, or—more accurately—the beginning of God's love connection with us. Holy Communion is that regular spiritual refresher when God says to us "I love you and I am with you." Author Barbara Brown Taylor put it this way: "The Lord's Supper is NOT a reward for clean living, but God's holy medicine for broken and struggling people."

Another author put it this way: "In Holy Communion you get a refill of the Holy Spirit which you first received in Baptism but which gets used up as you struggle with temptation, seek to live out your faith in daily life, and try to master the challenges of life."

Because Holy Communion is so powerful and important for our spiritual health, our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has, almost since its inception, advocated for the weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper in all ELCA congregations.

Imagine a bakery that sells its famous bread only once a week, or a butcher shop that offers its famous meats only every so often. Or imagine your doctor saying to you, "This medication works best for you, if you take it every day, but I am going to give you a prescription for only one pill per week." I trust you would not be too happy with your doctor. I know I wouldn't be.

For most of my adult years as a Lutheran, I have received the Holy Meal on a weekly basis and, frankly, I miss it. I would love to see Holy Communion celebrated more often at our Immanuel worship services. After all, it's holy medicine that you can't get anywhere else. And it is a good reason to invite others to worship, "Come, taste and see how good the Lord is" (Psalm 34:8).

In Christ,

Pastor Hahn



An Easter fire and fellowship preceded the Easter vigil on Easter Saturday, April 30.

“Licht an für Menschlichkeit”-- Aufruf zu einem respektvollen und achtsamen Umgang miteinander

Angesichts der angespannten gesellschaftlichen Lage und der zunehmend aggressiver werdenden Auseinandersetzungen um Fragen der Flüchtlingspolitik haben die Evangelisch-Lutherische Landeskirche Sachsens und das katholische Bistum Dresden-Meißen gemeinsam zu einem respektvollen Umgang innerhalb unserer Gesellschaft, insbesondere gegenüber Notleidenden, aufgerufen.

Die Kirchen laden alle dazu ein, mit einer Kerze im Fenster an jedem Sonntagabend ein Zeichen der ganz persönlichen Zustimmung zu einem menschlichen Umgang miteinander zu setzen.

Rückblickend auf die Ereignisse im Herbst 1989 (Fall der Mauer) sehen sich die Kirchen auch heute in der Pflicht, mitten in der Gesellschaft dem damaligen Zuruf „Keine Gewalt!“ durch den Kerzenschein erneut Ausdruck zu verleihen.

Die gemeinsame Initiative „Licht an für Menschlichkeit“ wirbt für die Einhaltung demokratischer Grundregeln und für die damit untrennbar verbundene Achtung eines jeden Menschen. Drohungen und Gewalt gegen Andersdenkende, Journalisten, Politiker, Flüchtlinge, Helferinnen und Helfer zerstören die Grundlagen unserer demokratischen Kultur und stehen im Gegensatz zur christlichen Botschaft der Nächstenliebe und Gewaltlosigkeit.

Also, jeden Sonntag eine Kerze ins Fenster stellen-- ein kleiner Beitrag für eine große Sache. (Übernommen von: www.lichtanfuermenschlichkeit.de)

“Candles for Kindness”-- A Call to More Kindness and Respect in Our Common Life

Public life in Germany (as in many other countries) is marked by rising tensions and divisions. Especially discussions about refugees are often accompanied by aggression and hostility. This has led the Lutheran Synod of Saxony and Roman Catholic Diocese of Dresden-Meißen to issue a joint public call for more respect and kindness in society, especially towards persons who are in need.

The two denominations invite everyone to place a candle into a window of their home on Sunday evenings as a sign of their support for a kinder way of interacting with others in social settings.

This call harkens back to a similar action that was launched in the fall of 1989 (the fall of the Berlin Wall). Back then, the churches saw it as their duty to support a call for “no violence” with a candle lighting campaign.



The current initiative, “candles for kindness,” calls for respect for the basic principles of Democracy and for the concomitant respect for the dignity of each person. Threats and violent actions against journalists, politicians, refugees, helpers, and people with different opinions not only destroy the foundations of Democracy but they are also contrary to the Christian message of love of neighbor and non-violence.

Putting a candle into a window every Sunday may be a small thing, but it is a small step for a big cause. (Source: www.lichtanfuermenschlichkeit.de)

CONNECTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

IMMANUEL'S CAFE

Thanks to Klaus and Ilse Abendroth, Astrid Wendt-Seiger, Erich Weiss, Gerlinde Kraft, Carl Kaempf and Rosi Sawadski, for hosting the Coffee Hours last month.

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

LADIES' NIGHT

Please join us for Ladies' Night, Friday, May 11, 2018.

Dinner will be at 6:30 PM. Our topic will be "God's Garden". A guest speaker and take-home project will follow the meal.



For information or to make a reservation, please contact Judy Friedman (267-343-3606) or Marion Morris (215-394-5620). Hope you can join us!

CONGRATULATIONS

First Holy Communion

We congratulate Robby and Kaitlyn for taking their first Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 29 and Alexander, Stephanie and Jessica for taking their first Holy Communion on Easter Sunday, April 1.



Baptism

We congratulate Jayden and Jessica and their families on their baptisms on Easter Sunday, April 1. We welcome them into Christ's church and into the Immanuel church family.



CONFIRMATION REUNION – PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25



Confirmed members celebrating an anniversary

Photo by Theo Sawadski

Testing, Testing, Testing



On Tuesday, March 13, Immanuel's conference room was turned into a testing center as students in our upper-level German class took the written portion of the Deutsches Sprachdiplom, Stufe I (the German Language Diploma, Level I). Following this rigorous 4 ½ hour exam of writing, listening comprehension and reading comprehension, students were tested on their speaking ability by a representative of the Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen on Saturday, April 14. Meanwhile, also on April 14, students in level 5 completed the Internationale schulische Vergleichsarbeit on the A1 level, students in level six participated in the National German Exam of the American Association of Teachers of German, and students in level 7 completed the written communication and reading and listening comprehension portions of the Internationale schulische Vergleichsarbeit on the A2 level.

Awards and Recognition

Thirteen of our students and their parents have been invited to the Annual Awards Ceremony of sponsored by the Philadelphia, Vicinity and Delaware Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. The ceremony will be held at the Cannstatter Volksfest-Verein on Saturday, April 28.

Saturday, May 12, is our last day of school for the 2017-18 school year. There will be a closing awards ceremony at 10:30 in the Lower Moreland High School auditorium and all are invited to attend.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Almost twice as many children as last year lined up for our Easter egg hunt on Easter Saturday.

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL APRIL 15, 2018



Photo by George C. Herrmann

CAUGHT DOING MINISTRY



Preparing the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt held on the Immanuel campus on Saturday, April 30, 2018.

Photo by Theo Sawadski

Enjoy the little things in life for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things.



AID FOR FRIENDS
FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Aid for Friends' mission is to serve needy, isolated shut-ins, primarily the frail elderly in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester and Delaware Counties, with **FREE** daily meals, delivered weekly by volunteers.

Please consider, when making dinner, preparing an extra portion for Aid for Friends "client/friends". Dinner trays and soup containers are available at the Coffee Hour. Directions are included with the trays. You may bring the frozen dinner to Immanuel and put it in the freezer in the dishwashing room, next to the kitchen. We will take the trays to Aid for Friends. They will deliver them to the isolated shut-ins. Michele Cook and Christel Birgel can answer any questions.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who faithfully brings non-perishable food for the Somerton Food Bank. Since the beginning of 2018, we have donated 672 items.



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

Immanuel received a letter from the ELCA thanking us for our gifts, totaling \$3,342.00, in support of the ELCA Good Gifts program, during this Christmas season.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 11:30 PM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Worship Planning Team 7:00 PM Christian Event Team	2 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	3 10:00 AM Member Care Team	4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> SYNOD ASSEMBLY </div>	5 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> SYNOD ASSEMBLY </div> 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS
6 Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion	7	8 1:30 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Ladies Guild	9 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	10 9:30 AM Lower Bucks Conference Meeting	11 LADIES NIGHT 6:30 PM (See pg.5) 	12 9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS 10:30 AM Abschußfeier at LMHS
13 Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM English Service 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service Newsletter Deadline	14 7:00 PM Council	15 Primary Election Day 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	16 12:00 Noon Frauenverein 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	17	18 9:30 AM Newsletter Mailing	19
20 Day of Pentecost 10:30 AM Combined Service With Holy Communion	21	22 1:30 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Finance	23 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	24	25	26
27 The Holy Trinity First Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion	28	29 1:30 PM Staff Meeting	30 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	31		