

# SEPTEMBER 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

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# IMMANUEL CELEBRATES

## 225<sup>TH</sup>

# ANNIVERSARY

## 1792 - 2017

# IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

## Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

14100 Worthington Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116

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

E-mail: [office@immanuelphilly.org](mailto:office@immanuelphilly.org)

Websites: [www.immanuelphilly.org](http://www.immanuelphilly.org) and [www.HillHappenings.org](http://www.HillHappenings.org)

Facebook: Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia

Ministers:	Members and Friends of the Congregation		
Pastor:	Rev. Norbert F. Hahn, Ph.D.	215-464-1540	<a href="mailto:PastorHahnILC@gmail.com">PastorHahnILC@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Diane Burgess	215-464-1540	<a href="mailto:office@immanuelphilly.org">office@immanuelphilly.org</a>
Council President:	Stewart Blankenhorn	215-947-5079	

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING TIMES, LEADERS

Bible Study	Wednesdays	10:00 AM, 7:00 PM	Pastor Hahn
Choir	As needed		
Church Council	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	7:00 PM	Stewart Blankenhorn
Christian Education Team	1 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday	7:00 PM	Eileen Szentjobi
Finance Team	As needed		David W. Cook
Frauenverein	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	11:30 AM	Marianne Haug
German Circle/Deutscher Kreis	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	7:00 PM	Ruth Muggler
Girl Scouts	Wednesdays	7:00 PM	Nancy Smith
Handbell Choir	As needed		
Immanuel German School	Saturdays	9:30 AM	Dr. Del Hausman
Ladies' Guild	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	7:30 PM	Barbara Hannon
Member Care Team	1 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday	10:00 AM	
Mutual Ministry Team	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	12:00 Noon	
Social Ministry Team	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	1:30 PM	Michele Cook
Sunday School	Sundays	9:30 AM	Eileen Szentjobi
Women's Book Club	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	6:30 PM	Judy Friedman
Worship Planning Team	1 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday	12:00 Noon	Pastor Hahn
Youth Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	11:00 AM	Chris Blankenhorn and Eileen Szentjobi

## NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF

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

# CONNECTING WITH GOD

## Sunday, September 3: "Labor Day Sunday"

Celebrating "Ministry in Daily Life"

In line with Martin Luther's teaching that all labor can glorify God and that God can be served in any kind of work, vocation, avocation, and endeavor, we want to ask for God's blessings on the many ways the friends and members of our congregation serve God in their daily lives.

There will be an optional blessing of worshipers' hands.

Please bring something that signifies what you typically do during the week either in your home, work, avocation, and community service, etc. (like a pot, or computer keyboard, an ID badge, etc.) and place it in the special table in the front of the worship space prior to the service.



## **What Lutherans Really Believe! (And Why It Matters)**

**An Introduction for Beginners  
and a Review for "Forgetters"**

**Thursdays at 7 PM**

**Starting: Thurs., Sept. 28**

As a result to the great response to our summer series on the Protestant Reformation and requests for more teaching on what being Lutheran today means in practical terms, this fun, friendly, and enlightening course is being offered.



You can be as young as twelve and as old as 112 to participate in this eight-week course. The only requirements are an open mind, a willingness to learn (or re-learn) and a commitment to attending at least six of the eight learning sessions (Sept. 28; Oct. 5, 19 & 26; Nov. 2, 9 & 16).

Sign up by contacting the church office:  
215.464-1540 or [office@ImmanuelPhilly.org](mailto:office@ImmanuelPhilly.org)

## **40 Days of Anniversary Prayer**

Between the two celebrations of our 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary (Sept. 17 and Oct. 29) there are exactly 41 days. Every member and friend of the congregation is asked to pray for 40 days for our members and friends, for our blessings, for God's leading, for our future, and more. (The extra day will be a make-up day.) Prayer cards will be provided! Watch for more information! Prayer changes things!

To honor Immanuel's 225 years  
Of ministry and mission we have set a goal  
to donate \$2,250.00  
(\$10.00 for each year of the congregation's  
life) to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod's  
"Forward Together in Faith" campaign.

If you wish to contribute you can do so on-  
line at [www.immanuelphilly.org](http://www.immanuelphilly.org) –  
Immanuel Celebrates 225 Years

## From Pastor Hahn

My dear church family,

**“Are we there yet?”** Most of us have heard that question. Often it comes from a child for whom the journey has either gotten boring or who is eager to arrive at the destination. Most of us have probably asked it a few times ourselves.

Occasionally, the answer comes sooner than expected. I remember one time, when I was about seven, that we arrived at my favorite aunt’s house so quickly that the only explanation I could find was that my dad must have broken all speed limits along the way. (Of course, he did not. My inner clock was just off.)

**“Are we there yet?”** If by **“there”** we mean fall and the resumption of our full ministry schedule, then we are **“there,”** indeed. If by **“there”** we mean an exciting September with several special worship and celebration opportunities, then we are **“there.”** (More details are in other places in this newsletter.)

If we mean by **“there”** our celebration of 225 years in ministry and mission as a congregation and 500 years as heirs of the

Protestant Reformation, then we are **“there.”**

If by **“there”** we mean an increase in financial giving for God’s work by the members and friends of our church family, then we are **“almost there.”** (According to the financial secretary’s report to the congregation council, the giving by members and friends in the first six months of 2017 was up compared to the first six months of 2016, but there are still unmet needs.)

If we mean by **“there”** a clear picture of our destination as a church family, a sharp vision of our future, a detailed sense of what God

wants to do with us and through us, then we are **“not yet there.”**

The good news is that birthdays and anniversaries are not just occasions for looking back in celebration but also for looking forward in eager anticipation, faithful dedication, and deliberate strategizing.

I am convinced that God is not done yet with our congregation and that many good things are still in store for us. We might not be **“there”** yet for a long time, but God is **“here”** all the time. Thanks be to God.

In Christ,

*Pastor Hahn*

### A New Bible Study

Wednesdays 10 AM and 7 PM  
Starting Wed., Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>

The format is casual. The fellowship is friendly. The approach is shared learning and respectful listening. The time flies by. The insights are practical and relevant. The pastor’s handwriting is a challenge. Each week stands on its own. The whole thing is definitely worth your time. Try it out! Come when you can.

### About Your Anniversary Gifts

Members and friends have begun making their anniversary gifts. For example, one person gave \$1 for each year since confirmation; another gave \$1 for each year of membership. Pastor and Lyn felt led to give \$225 for Immanuel’s total lifespan. Thank you to all givers!

The humble overall goal is \$2,250, which we hope to give to Bishop Burkat on September 17, for the benefit of the Synod’s campaign, “Forward Together in Faith,” designed “to help equip congregations in our Synod (including Immanuel) for the future of ministry.”



# CELEBRATING OUR 225<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!



## BI-LINGUAL CELEBRATION WORSHIP SERVICE

You are invited to a special bi-lingual celebration worship service on Sunday, September 17 at 10:00 AM.



Bishop Claire Burkat will be our special guest and preacher. After the worship service, you are invited to enjoy a reception that will include a champagne toast (or sparkling water) as well as a selection of quality nibbles and fine treats.

## CELEBRATION LUNCH

You are also invited to a sit down meal on Reformation Sunday, October 29, following the festival worship, which begins at 10:00 AM, held on the Immanuel church campus. The sit down meal will be served at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein, 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA, as soon as all guests have arrived, around noon. A program will follow.



This event will also celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of the **Protestant Reformation** on October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses and initiated what we now know as the Protestant Reformation.

Here some additional details:

- Reservations are necessary for this event. Reservation forms are available on the information table and must be returned, with payment, by October 16. A printable form is also available online at [www.immanuelphilly.org](http://www.immanuelphilly.org) – Immanuel Celebrates 225 Years.
- The cost for the meal and the program is \$20 per person. (Assistance is available.)
- Carpooling and the church van will be available for rides to and from the Cannstatter.



## Voices needed for our 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chorus

Join us for rehearsal on Thursday evening September 7 & 14 at 7:00 PM  
We will also rehearse before the service on September 17.

Help us make a joyful noise at our anniversary celebration.

## Roboter segnete fast 6.000 Menschen

Der Segensroboter „BlessU-2“ (entworfen vom Medienkünstler Alexander Wiedekind-Klein) auf der Wittenberger Weltausstellung Reformation hat bereits knapp 6.000 Besucher in sieben verschiedenen Sprachen gesegnet.

Am meisten gewünscht wurden rund 4.000 deutschsprachige Segen, mehr als 800 in hessischem Dialekt, rund 500 englische und 125 spanische, teilte die hessen-nassauische Kirche am 9. August mit.

Seit dem 20. Mai und noch bis zum 10. September präsentiert sich die [Evangelische Kirche in Hessen und Nassau](#) mit dem Kommunikations-experiment und der LichtKirche auf der Wittenberger Freiluftausstellung anlässlich des [500. Reformations-jubiläums](#). Ziel ist, Diskussionen über Digitalisierung und die Bedeutung von Segen anzuregen.

Zur [Weltausstellung Reformation](#) sind in der Lutherstadt in diesem Sommer Vertreter von mehr als 80 Kirchen und Organisationen zusammengekommen. Ihr Ziel ist es, am Ausgangsort der Reformationsbewegung die Herausforderungen des 21. Jahrhunderts zu hinterfragen.

Über den „Segensroboter“ berichteten den Angaben zufolge bereits Medien aus zahlreichen europäischen Ländern sowie aus China und Chile. (Via Evangelischer Pressedienst, epd).

## Almost 6,000 people blessed by a robot

According to a report by the Protestant News Service, EPD, a robot (designed by media artist Alexander Wiedekind-Klein) with the name “BlessU-2” has already blessed about 6,000 visitors at a special international exhibit focusing on the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation in the city of Wittenberg, Germany. Blessings were given in seven languages.



According to the Territorial Church of Hessen-Nassau, about 4,000 blessings were requested in German, about 800 in the Hessian dialect, about 500 in English and 125 in Spanish.

This project, which began on May 20<sup>th</sup> and ends on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, is a communication experiment of the Church of Hessen-Nassau with which it hopes to encourage discussions about

digital communications and the importance of blessings.

The International Exhibit “Reformation” in Wittenberg, the city of Luther, saw the coming together of more than 80 church bodies and organizations. Their shared aim, while gathered at the point where the Protestant Reformation began, to explore the unique challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The “blessing robot” has apparently been mentioned already in media outlets in several European countries as well as in China and Chile.

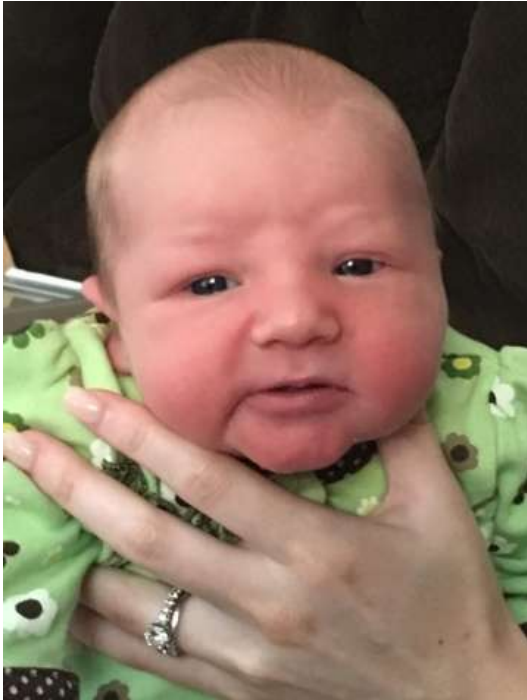
What do you think about it?



# CONNECTING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

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## NEW ARRIVALS



Congratulations to David and Linda Derr on the arrival of a new granddaughter. **Adalyn** was born on July 19, weighing 7 lb., 12 oz. Please keep her, her parents and her grandparents in your prayers.



Congratulations to Anton and Catie Jarkowsky on becoming parents and to Gertrud and Eberhard Jarkowsky on becoming grandparents again. **James Eberhard Jarkowsky** arrived on July 9 weighing 8.6 pounds. Please keep him, his parents and grandparents in your prayers.

## IMMANUEL'S CAFE

Thanks to Ilse & Klaus Abendroth, Gerlinda Kraft, Carl Kaempf, Gale Zimmerman and Sylvia Hansen for hosting last month's Coffee Hours.

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.



**Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Office of the Bishop  
August 2, 2017

The Rev. Norbert Hahn  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
14100 Worthington Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19116

Dear Pastor Hahn:

*"...let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." – 1 John 3:18*

On behalf of the officers, members of Synod Council and Synod staff let me express our deep gratitude and appreciation to you, your staff and volunteers for the warm welcome and hospitality we received on June 8<sup>th</sup> during our time at Immanuel. We were able to conduct Synod business in a large comfortable area. The setting was perfect.

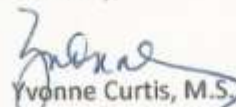
What could possibly top the setting? The food! Delicious German cuisine, and all in attendance remarked how they enjoyed the food along with the outstanding service. Kudos to your wonderful team of staff and volunteers: Christel and Matt Birgel, and Erich Weiss.

Christine Simpson's coordination and organization left no stone unturned. Much appreciation to Mike Simpson for all the many ways he supported this meeting as well as driving some to the local transportation.

The hospitality was evident – such attention to detail! Our hats are off to you, Immanuel, we can do more together than we can alone! Heartfelt appreciation to all for their labor of love. *The love and care put into this effort – showed up in every way.*

Again, thank you Pastor Hahn for your warm welcome, kind greeting, and for your continued leadership and partnership. May God's blessings continue with you and the saints at Immanuel as you demonstrate your love through *truth and action* to those who come to, and through the doors of immanuel.

Sincerely,

  
Yvonne Curtis, M.S. Director of Operations  
and Executive Assistant to the Bishop

c: Vice President Tracey A. Beasley  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Simpson

7241 Germantown Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19119-1723 • 267.323.3737 • Fax: 267.323.3777 • [www.ministryink.org](http://www.ministryink.org)



## GERMAN CIRCLE

Dear Members of the German Circle,

Summer will soon be over and it will be time for our September meeting. We will meet on Sunday, September 10 at 7:00 pm. Hope to see all of our members at the meeting.

We would like to invite anyone interested in joining the German Circle, to please contact Ruth Muggler at 215-443-5023. We would love to have new members.

Ruth Muggler



Classes resume on  
Saturday,  
September 9, 2017.

*Remember:*

**It is never too late to learn German**

## CHECK OUT THE CONFERENCE ROOM!

Take a look at the conference room! Klaus und Ilse Abendroth, along with Theo Sawadski, worked hard to replace the aging pressboard shelving units with a solid mahogany set that had been donated to our church family by Mr. Hans Wolf, a friend of the congregation, who had dissolved his household due to a move to Florida.

Marianne Haug also helped with clearing off the shelves and sorting books. We hope you like the new look!



Before



After

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Garden

A friend suggested the story of our garden is almost like a Bible parable. She wrote:

“There were people who wanted to plant a garden, but there were voices that said it would not work, but the people, trusting in the Lord, went out and planted the garden anyway.

The time came when there was a rich harvest and the naysayers saw the bounty and were humbled. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, follow in His light and are not hampered by the darkness.”

As of August 13, we have picked from our garden:

87 peppers  
10 zucchini  
8 cucumbers  
17 quart bags of green beans  
82 tomatoes

The vegetables have been shared between the Somerton Food Bank and Aid for Friends.

AFF shut-ins think the fresh tomatoes are a special treat. One lady immediately had to make a tomato sandwich, when her visitor gave her a tomato.

Check [Immanuelphilly.org](http://Immanuelphilly.org) to see pictures of the garden. Look under “Make a Difference.” You will find “The Garden.”

### God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday

The date for the 2017 “God’s Work Our Hands Sunday” is September 10. As we observe the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, we remember what Martin Luther wrote, “a Christian is a servant, completely attentive to the needs of all.”

Service activities offer us an opportunity to use our hands to do God’s work. This year Immanuel will offer several ways to serve and love our neighbors.

1. Putting together Personal Care Kits for people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence.
2. Make breakfast bags for Aid for Friends.
3. Visit Veterans’ Home
4. Prepare and deliver treats for police and firemen
5. Visit Genesis Nursing Home

This is a Thrivent sponsored event.

### Somerton Food Bank

Thank you for your generous gifts. There were 211 items given to the Food Bank in July:

77 boxes of cereal  
27 cans of soup  
65 meat

The other items were miscellaneous things.

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## A THOUGHT FOR TODAY:

I have no riches but my thoughts, yet these are wealth enough for me.

Sarah Josepha Hale, writer and editor (24 Oct 1788-1879)

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p>9:30 AM English Service with Holy Communion</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship</p> <p>11:00 AM German Service with Holy Communion</p> <p>12:00 Noon Mutual Ministry Team</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LABOR DAY</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Member Care Team</p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>12 noon: Worship Planning Team</p> <p>7:00PM Christian Ed. Team</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. SUNDAY</b></p> <p>9:30 AM English Worship</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM GWOH Service</p> <p>11:00 AM German Worship</p> <p>12:00 PM GWOH Service</p> <p>7:00 PM German Circle</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Congregation Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM Ladies' Guild</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>1:30 PM Social Ministry Team</p> <p>7:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Combined Service with Bishop Burkat</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>11:30 AM Frauenverein</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p>9:30 AM English Service</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Fellowship</p> <p>11:00 AM German Service</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 PM Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>7:00 PM What We Believe</p> <p>7:00 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Immanuel German School at LMHS</p>

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, October 1 Steuben Parade  
 Saturday, October 21 Linus Day  
 Sunday, October 29 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Lunch