



The Image

November 2020

NOVEMBER



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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We Are Church, We Are Called

50•40•10

Proclaiming • Reforming • Celebrating

Dear people of Immanuel,

This year we have the very unique opportunity to celebrate an important anniversary. This November marks the fiftieth anniversary of the first woman ordained in the Lutheran Church. On November 22nd, 1970 Rev. Elizabeth Platz was ordained as the first woman pastor in the LCA.

As a female minister in the church, I am in awe of the work of the women who came before me to make these important strides. It's important to learn our history and to continue to grow as people of faith. Women have been a part of the church since the beginning. Mary Magdalene, the first female apostle, was one of Jesus' closest companions. She was the first to see the risen Christ and proclaim the resurrection. This witness has continued through the ages through faithful women. In times when women could not serve as ministers in an official capacity, women still led and served the church in whatever way they could, with whatever gifts they had. Let's take some time to give thanks together for their witness!

*"With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020 we celebrate **50** years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, **40** years of women of color being ordained, and **10** years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely."* (elca.org/fiftyyearsofordainedwomen)

Pastor Jamie Brandt Brieske (she/her/hers)



We're getting very close! The latest proof we received has been reviewed and sent back to Lifetouch with a few changes noted, so the directory should be going to print soon!!



Sunday, November 1st All Saints Sunday

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

Livestream 9 AM

Outdoor Vigil 9:45-10:45

Call the office to have the name of a beloved saint written on a luminary bag, or come to church Sunday morning after the livestream and decorate your own luminary bags outside in the parking lot. At 10:30 we will line them up so that people can drive through and look at the names of the saints who have inspired our congregation. Please observe the same safety precautions used at the outdoor services while participating outside.

Sunday, November 8th Celebrating 50~40~10 Part 1

Immanuel will take three weeks to celebrate the 50th anniversary of women's ordination in the Lutheran Church. We will look at the legacy of women in the Bible, women throughout church history, and women who are leading in the church today. Mothering God, guide us in your comforting love as we give thanks for women of faith throughout the ages.

Livestream 9 AM

Drive-in Communion in Immanuel Parking Lot

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Come to the Immanuel Parking lot and receive communion from Pastor Jamie and other ministers of the church. No need to leave your car! There will be guides in the parking lot to usher you to a spot. Masks will be worn by all ministers to ensure the safety of the congregation.

Sunday, November 15th Celebrating 50~40~10

Part 2

Livestream 9 AM

Drive-in Communion in Immanuel Parking Lot

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Sunday, November 22nd Celebrating 50~40~10

Part 3

9 AM Worship with our synod on YouTube and Facebook (No outdoor ritual)

Premiere of worship service from the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of women featuring a special sermon by Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson, first female bishop of the NWSWI

Sunday, November 29th First Sunday in Advent

Introduction from Sundays and Seasons

Although the historical record is sketchy, it appears that our Advent arose out of a season of fasting to prepare for baptisms at Epiphany. By the sixth century, an eschatological emphasis was present. Our Advent comprises the four Sundays before Christmas. Each year, the first Sunday deals with our readiness for divine judgment, the second Sunday the ministry of John the Baptist, the third Sunday the Baptist's call to a repentant life, and only on the fourth Sunday a narrative concerning the birth of Jesus. God comes, in the past in the history of Israel and the incarnation of Jesus, in the present in the word and sacrament of each Sunday and in the sufferings of our time, and in the future at the end of all things. The lectionary appoints readings to fit this pattern, and its tone stands in stark contrast to our society's weeks of preparation for Christmas. Liturgical advice to keep a meaningful Advent without a December-long celebration of Christmas is meant not to be a kill-joy, but to awake our longing for the surprising ways that God comes to us.

Livestream 9 AM (no outdoor ritual)

Youth and Family Ministry News

~Alyssa Engedal, Faith Formation Minister

I have some exciting news! I have begun planning for our 2021 Summer Trip! I have been in contact with Don Marsh, who is the director of Service Learning Camps and has many years of experience in children, youth & family ministry in the ELCA. Service Learning Camps (SLC) is committed to, and excited about, offering safe & impactful trips next summer, and I think this will be a great fit for our team. SLC has partnerships with many communities around the US, and they coordinate our service work, as well as help us find housing, offer suggestions of fun/evening activities, and help us find tasty places to eat. We are still very early in the planning, but if you are currently in grades 8-12 (or college) and would be interested in joining us - please let me know! For those of you in the congregation who want to support our team, please watch for ways to do so. We will begin creatively fundraising in the upcoming months (of course, it will look different than what we're used to). If you would like to give a monetary donation, you are welcome to do so anytime. We thank you for your financial and spiritual support of these trips - they are truly such a meaningful part of the faith journeys of our youth (for affirmation of this, see the Devotion in the Council meeting minutes!).



SHYN will serve at The Community Table on Wednesday, November 18 from 9am - 11:30 am. I will send a sign up out via text/email when it gets closer - but mark your calendar! Feel free to email me ahead of time to sign up, too, if you'd like.

Pastor Jamie and I are talking with the other Eau Claire ELCA churches and planning a unique and exciting interactive Advent experience - watch for more information! In addition, I am planning to put together a Virtual/Video program for anyone who would like to participate. ***If you/your family is willing to make a video of yourselves telling part of the story (in any way you'd like - acting it out, using puppets, LEGO's, your own nativity pieces, drawing pictures, etc.), please let me know!***



Journey of Faith at Home

Our elementary families have all been given a New Testament Challenge & some fun story Bibles to use to complete the Challenge. If your family has done any fun art projects or retold a story in other creative ways, we'd love to see a picture of them! Text or email them to Alyssa - we might share them on our Facebook page! Also in your JoF At Home bag was a "Thankfulness" craft that would be perfect for this month - if you have any questions on how to complete it, feel free to reach out.



Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes October 20th, 2020

Council Members: Emilie Anderson, Karen Betzig-Lundbergh, Sandra LaValley, Calvin Dean, Jennifer Dean, Natalie Forrest, Becky Ivey, Lang Jacobson, Keith Martin, Bill Schwengel, Bob Wilcox.

Absent Council Members: Pastor Jamie Brieske, Al Ludwig

Gathering

Devotion- Natalie and Calvin, our student representatives to Council, shared their faith journey. Both student members had attended Luther Bible Camp, the National Youth Gathering, and other Immanuel Youth trips, like traveling to Colorado. They found these experiences to be very beneficial. In many cases, the students found that these trips were a great way to relate to others of a similar age in faith and activities. These experiences have provided a strong base for their faith and over the years strengthened their faith. The Houston National Youth gathering was an amazing trip as the students experienced a stadium filled with thousands of people their age coming together in worship. The students found that they developed friendships with others from across the country as well as strengthening friendships within the Immanuel youth church group as they participated in these faith-based trips. In summary, the youth trips and gatherings have been essential and have motivated students to keep up with faith practices of prayer and thankfulness, provided opportunities to recharge their faith, have helped them in facing difficult situations and reaffirmed for them how much God can do and how beautiful the work is that he does.

Thank you notes - Thank you note to Gary Hedding for leading worship Sunday, October 18th. Pastor Hedding declined payment. Keith asked if we could donate to a charity in his name, we will pursue this.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Council will provide a small monetary gift (coffee card) and express appreciation to Pastor Jamie as well as retired Pastor Aaseng. Lang will work with Dee on this.

Minutes

September- 2020 Approved via email

Reports

Pastor - None at this time

Property - Bill submitted a very detailed report outlining the recent and continued work being done, especially concerning the details surrounding the preparation for the upcoming painting and work being done in the sanctuary in November. Motion to approve the property reports was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Finance - Reports submitted to share drive. \$2K expenditure on streaming equipment in September. Expenses below budgeted for the month of September. Expenses about \$1500 more than giving for the month. Motion to approve the financial reports was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

New Business

COVID planning committee report (found on the shared drive) - Karen shared with the Council a report on the committee's progress in developing a cohesive approach to Immanuel's work in meeting the needs of our members and community as well as the building itself during this time in which the church navigates the current health situation and public health recommendations. Protocols will be implemented at which time in-person activities return or needs arise. Monitoring of programs, structures, protocols, and supports will be continuous in the work done by this committee to best care for our faith community.

Old Business

Paycheck Protection Program - Lang updated Council by giving a review of the Cares Act/PPP, which was initiated to assist in covering expenses in April, May, and June (approx 8 weeks). It is now possible to apply for loan forgiveness. There is a streamlined process through RCU and the US Department of Treasury to apply for loan forgiveness for loans under \$50K. Applicants must have maintained approximately the same number of employees and have used 75% of the loan for payroll; both of which Immanuel has met. Discussion continued regarding the structure of repaying. If payments were to be put into effect (for which loan forgiveness is not applied or loan forgiveness is denied), monthly loan payments would be scheduled over a 2-year or 5-year time period. Repaying the loan vs applying for forgiveness was debated. A motion to apply for forgiveness was made by Sandy, seconded by Jennifer, and passed by a vote of 8 aye and 3 no votes.

Closing Prayer - Lang closed in prayer.

Adjournment - Becky made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sandy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tues –November 17, 2020 - 7:00 PM



03 Dona Peterson
 05 Rachel Isaacson
 06 Brock Stilp
 06 Bennett Stilp
 07 Mark Bowman
 08 Brent Carlson
 08 Harrison Haas
 09 Sammy Zimmerman
 09 Landon Ivey
 11 Pastor Jamie Brieske
 11 Kaelyn Hansen
 11 Rowan Tarpenning
 13 Tammie Rubenzer
 15 Carol Sue Carlson
 15 Helissa Bell
 16 Laura Olson

17 Darryl Petersen
 20 Audrey Brunzlick
 20 Kitty Rahl
 20 Karen Betzig-Lundberg
 20 Justina Mbanali
 20 Raphael Albano
 21 Sarah Luthy
 21 Luke Rosenberger
 23 Joy Becker
 23 Katy LoRusso
 27 Michael Albano
 27 Kristofer Isaacson
 28 Mary Bischel
 28 Marit Barquist
 30 Karen Larson
 20 Vicki Fankhauser
 30 Brenda Hagen



05 Ben & Jennifer Lashley
 09 Kim & Suzi Sturz
 13 Donovan & Nicole Tucker



Thanksgiving Baskets

Each year Immanuel provides a turkey and all the fixings to help families in need enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. You can help by providing “the fixings!” To see the list of food items needed or to sign up to donate, please [click here](#). You can also call the church office or find the link to SignUp Genius on our website. Thank you!



Happy Thanksgiving!

Prayer of Gratitude, ~ written by Sarah Buteux. Posted on MINEmergent's Daily Communique, January 18, 2013

O Lord, as we prepare to celebrate and give thanks this year,
 may we find it in our hearts to be grateful no matter what.
 May we praise you for what we can do
 and praise you in spite of what we can't.
 May we thank you for what is and what isn't,
 for what is going well and for what is not.
 May we thank you for what brings us joy
 and even for that which brings us grief,
 for if our grief testifies to anything,
 it testifies to the depths of our love.
 Bless us and keep us, dear God, we pray,
 and turn our hearts ever and always
 toward your all encompassing light,
 you who are our creator and savior,
 our redeemer and friend. Amen and amen.

November 2020

If you shop on Amazon, log into Amazon Smile. We receive \$ from your purchases. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0990139>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 AM Livestream service 9:45-10:45 AM All Saints Outdoor Vigil 	2 4:00-6:30 PM Food Pantry open 6:30 PM - H3 (Zoom)	3 9:30 AM H3	4 10 AM Sr Bible Study via Zoom 6 PM WoW livestream service 6:45 PM Confirmation (Zoom) 7:30 PM 9th grade mentor meeting	5	6	7
8 9 AM Livestream Service 10 - 10:30 AM Drive-in Communion	9 4:00-6:30 PM Food Pantry open 6:30 PM - H3 (Zoom)	10 9:30 AM H3	11 10 AM Sr Bible Study via Zoom 6 PM WoW livestream service 6:45 PM Confirmation (Zoom) 7:30 PM Choir get-together on Zoom	12	13	14
15 9 AM Livestream Service 10 - 10:30 AM Drive-in Communion	16 4:00-6:30 PM Food Pantry open 6:30 PM - H3 (Zoom)	17 9:30 AM H3 7 PM Council Mtg	18 9 AM SHYN @ TCT 10 AM Sr Bible Study via Zoom 6 PM WoW livestream service 6:45 PM Confirmation (Zoom)	19	20	21
22 9 AM Worship with Synod on YouTube and Facebook 8 PM Synod Youth Board Zoom for high schoolers	23 4:00-6:30 PM Food Pantry open	24	25 No Sr Bible Study Immanuel serves @ Community Table No WoW or Confirmation	26 	27	28
29 First Sunday in Advent 9 AM Livestream service	30 4:00-6:30 PM Food Pantry open 6:30 PM - H3 (Zoom)	1 9:30 AM H3	2 10 AM Sr Bible Study via Zoom 6 PM WoW livestream service 6:45 PM Confirmation (Zoom)	3	4	5

Attention High Schoolers!

The Synod Youth Board is offering a series of opportunities to gather virtually with other high schoolers from throughout our Synod - a great way to check in plus support the three Immanuel youth who are on the Board!



The gospels tell us of an "upper room" where the disciples often met with Jesus. Here, they learned, they shared, and they ate together. For us, The Upper Room will be a gathering of high school youth with an opportunity to connect, share, read Scripture, and pray together. During some gatherings, we will also take time to discuss important and relevant issues and hear from various guest speakers.

We hope you'll join us!

+ + +

October 25, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. (Devos and Group Check-In)
November 22, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. (Inclusion in the Church)
December 20, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. (Christmas party!)

Zoom link found at: <http://nwswi.org/synod-youth-board>

Immanuel Lutheran Church
3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
Address service required

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Dated Material—useless if delayed



*A congregation of the
Northwest Synod of the ELCA of Wisconsin*