



# MESSENGER

Immanuel

Lutheran Church

A community growing in Christ, living in grace and serving in love.

January 2021

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## SUNDAY MORNINGS

### Worship

Join us for live, virtual worship Sunday mornings at 10 am. Go to Immanuel's website, [ilcsp.org](http://ilcsp.org), and click on "Worship with us online." You'll also find recordings from the past few Sundays.

### Holy Communion

We'll share Holy Communion during our service on the 2nd Sunday, January 10th.

### Sunday Coffee Hour

Gather online after Sunday worship (10:30ish). Find the link in News and Notes or at the end of worship.

## FROM THE PASTOR

### Happy New Year. Welcome to 2021!

It has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? We're hoping that this is the year we can gather again with family, with friends and as a church community. We are all looking forward to a world safe from the coronavirus, with schools, sports, restaurants, and churches all open to the public. Knowing that everyone is eager, the Building Reopen Team is keeping a close watch on virus rates in the cities, and will meet monthly to determine the best time for Immanuel to start allowing small groups into the building. It may be months away, but it will come! Stay tuned.

### But that's not all that's happening in 2021

This year is also Immanuel's 150th anniversary. 150! A team has been preparing our celebration for several years now and are unperturbed by a pandemic. The remembering and celebrating will start slowly while we are apart, but will be in full swing this summer and fall. For now, keep **October 10, 2021** on your calendar. We will be having an anniversary worship service that morning, with Bishop Patricia Lull preaching, then head across the street to Macalester College for our 150th Anniversary Banquet.

### Again, that's not all that's happening in 2021

Can you remember back to the summer of 2019, when Immanuel began discerning where God was leading us for the next 5 years? We had listening sessions with 80 individuals to learn the strengths and the needs for the congregation. Then we designed a way to listen to our neighbors in MacGroveland, to find the strengths and needs in the community. When that was finished, we hoped to realize a vision and goals by May of 2020. Well, that didn't happen. The virus came and everything stopped. Everything changed. So we'll need to back up a bit. Sometime in the fall of 2021, we hope to start again, listening to each other

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## FROM THE PASTOR: Continued

and listening to God to discern where God is leading us in this changed world.

In 2021 Immanuel will come through the Pandemic of 2020 with our eyes focused on where the Holy Spirit is leading us next. Get ready, 2021 will be a great year!

~ Pastor Cindy

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## ANNUAL MEETING

### Virtual Annual Meeting—save the date!

Get ready for Immanuel's first virtual annual meeting! After speaking with the bishop and synod lawyer, the council approved a Zoom-based meeting for Immanuel to be held **Sunday, January 31, at 11 am**. Save the date!

We meet each year in January as a congregation to approve the ministry plan (budget) and to elect our leaders for the year. We need at least 50 people to attend to be able to vote.

To make entry to the meeting and validating voters easier, we're asking everyone to register beforehand. You can register [HERE](#) or call the church office. A day before the meeting we will email you a zoom link. Those without access to computer technology will be able to phone into the meeting.

On **Sunday, January 24, at 11 am** the finance committee will present the budget and answer any questions in a virtual meeting.

**Deadline for Team Reports** from team leaders is **January 8th**. We are suggesting a half page limit, if possible. Any pictures you may have would be great. Please e-mail your team reports to Deanna at [dhesse@ilcsp.org](mailto:dhesse@ilcsp.org).

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## GLOBAL MISSION SUNDAY

On **January 24** we will celebrate **Global Mission Sunday**. This year the focus is on ministries in Tanzania, using videos with music and prayers prepared by the Iringa Diocese and St Paul Area Synod. If you are able to make a global mission offering, (online or by mail) it will go toward our \$1000 partnership commitment for 2021.



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## ADULT EDUCATION

### Adult Bible Study

Would you like to know more about the readings you hear on Sunday mornings? Join us on Wednesday evenings for a discussion of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Pastor Cindy brings some background, and then everyone can join in the conversation. The study will resume (after a Christmas break) on **Wednesday, January 13, 7 pm**. If you are new to the study, sign up [HERE](#) for the Zoom link.

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## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Virtual Worship Services

We are grateful to many Immanuel members who have given so much time, energy, and talent to make our Advent and Christmas services beautiful. Several families agreed to light the Advent wreath from their homes. Many musicians recorded beautiful music. Several children helped tell the Christmas story for the 3:00 Christmas Eve service. Marlene Johnshoy produced a beautiful virtual choir anthem and weekly edits the services. Each week Dale Fierke gives us the gift of mixing the music. Readers and assisting ministers do an excellent job each Sunday. We will be together again in our sanctuary, but until then, thanks be to God for our church community that pulls together and continues to worship!

### Chorister Zoom Rehearsals Resume on January 13th

Our 2nd - 6th graders have been rehearsing all fall via zoom every Wednesday from 4:30-5:00. If you have a child that would like to join in the fun, please let Chris Cherwien know! [ccherwien@ilcsp.org](mailto:ccherwien@ilcsp.org) Rehearsals resume January 13th.

### Worship Slideshow Schedule

Send us your pictures! Look for the (\*) indicating we want submissions. [Email to Emily](#) by the date indicated.

**January 3:** Reflection on the readings

\* **January 10:** Baptism. Yours or family members'. (1/8)

**January 17:** Social Action Spotlight

**January 24:** Global Mission Sunday

\* **January 31:** 2020 Retrospect. What ILC moments did you capture in 2020 (virtual or in-person)? (1/28)

*Have an idea for a slideshow topic? Send it to Pastor Cindy or Emily King.*

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## BUILDING RE-OPEN TEAM

### Building Re-Open Team

The Building Re-Open Team has recommended that Immanuel's building remain closed to the public through January, 2021. At the January meeting the team will discuss the need to be closed during the winter months. With the COVID-19 vaccine being distributed, everyone is eager to gather together again. We will do our best to re-open the building in a timely manner, while keeping everyone safe. The team will continue to watch current virus infection rates and provide the best advice possible to the council.

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## 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Typically this time of year we would be placing the 2021 Offering Envelopes in the entry way to pick up as you attend worship services. Due to COVID19 that process will be different this year. 2021 offering envelopes will be mailed to those whom use them. We will place the others out in the hallway. Please call the church office (651-699-5560) if you wish to stop and pick yours up (with mask on) during office hours. If you rarely use yours but still wish to have your offering envelope booklet mailed to you, please call the church office.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY



### Watch past Epiphany pageant together

Epiphany is the day when we celebrate the Magi, or 3 Kings, arriving to worship Jesus. We used to mark it with a pageant, enjoying the Christmas story one more time before we put away all the decorations.

With no in-person pageants for Christmas or Epiphany, we'll watch one of our past pageants together [on Zoom](#). Join us at **7 pm Wednesday, January 6**. Get in your PJs or comfy loungewear, grab some cocoa and popcorn and prepare to smile until it hurts!

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### Virtual family faith: New preK gathering time

Join Miss Emily for supper and a story. This month we'll gather families at two time options: **6:15–6:30 pm** for our preK friends and their families and **6:30–7:15 pm** for our elementary-aged kids and their families. If your family has children in both groups, pick the one that best fits your schedule.

Also, since we want to be together for the Epiphany party, we'll meet the **2nd Thursday: January 14**.

This month's topic will be Jesus's baptism, and ours, too! Click [HERE](#) to join either gathering.

### January Confirmation Schedule

Jan 6	No Class
Jan 13	7-8 pm
Jan 20	7-8 pm
Jan 27	7-8 pm

### January High School Schedule

Jan 10	Book Club 7-8 pm
Jan 17	Youth Group 7-8 pm
Jan 24	Book Club 7-8 pm
Jan 31	Youth Group 7-8pm

All classes and meetings held online

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## MOMENT IN HISTORY—150th ANNIVERSARY

### History of Immanuel's Pipe Organs

Immanuel Lutheran Church is steeped deeply in musical tradition. In 1923, the corner stone was laid at 1567 Goodrich Avenue in St. Paul Minnesota by the Reverend C.J. Eastvold. In 1922, with \$8,000 from the sale of the church building on St. Alban's and Aurora, the basement was completed. In April of 1925, the superstructure of Immanuel was built above the basement. The dedication of the building was on October 4, 1925, with Dr. G.M. Bruce of Luther Seminary preaching.

In 1926, a self-contained reed organ was installed in the new building. In 1929, a Page theater pipe organ was installed with the organ console located in the chancel steps area. The choir loft was located to the right in the transept area. The organ pipes were located in the ceiling about 5 to 6 rows of pews from the front of the sanctuary. The organ sound emanated through a grilled opening (still present) in the ceiling.

(There is some still existing information from 1929 about the youth of Immanuel raising money to help with the purchase of the new pipe organ. They actually sold individual organ pipes to church members for \$10.00!)

In 1952 the organ console and choir were moved to the rear balcony, while the pipes remained in their sanctuary front ceiling location. The organ console was placed on the right-hand side of the balcony as one is looking up from the lower congregation worship area.

In 1969, a new M.P. MOELLER organ was installed in the balcony, having eleven ranks of pipes, which were later increased to fourteen ranks. It used both leather and plastic mechanical valves, with an electro-magnetic action. The organ console was relocated to the left side of the balcony. Since the upper ceiling was so low, some of the long bass pedal pipes had to be "bent" over (mitered) in order to fit into the limited space. Over the years, some of those large pipes began to split and collapse under their own weight.

On November 5, 1989, a renovated organ was re-dedicated, rebuilt by Mr. Karl Eilers. The mitered bass pipes were straightened out, and relocated to the "peak" of the ceiling where there was more room. All the pipes were raised up to permit them to sound out into the sanctuary area more effectively. The entire pipe swell chamber was completely redesigned. Seventeen electronic "ranks" of sounds were added. Unfortunately, over the years, the electronic sounds broke down, and became unusable.

In 2006, rather than repairing the electronic sounds, the entire organ was discarded and replaced with the present Allen Digital Electronic organ.

-Larry Wilson & Judie Prayfrock

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## THANK YOU

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul, our member congregations, and the people we serve, I extend sincere thanks for your contribution of \$3,534 to Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul. Your generosity is appreciated and enables us to continue our efforts to bring together people of faith in the East Metro area to strengthen the fabric of healthy community left. Thank you!

~ Randi Ilyse Roth, Executive Director, Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul



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## THANK YOU (continued)

We are so thankful for your continued monthly gift of \$400 to support the Dorothy Day Place. Your generosity keeps our community safe. The men, women, and children who come to us each day have relied on your compassion to shelter them from poverty, homelessness, mental illness, and racism. Especially during COVID19 you are the hope in action that brings our mission to life every day.

~ Tim Marx, President & CEO, Catholic Charities

Thank you for the gift of \$1,178.00. Your donation will continue to support ISAIAH's many interfaith initiatives. ISAIAH is a community of congregations who are motivated to act for justice and equity because of love for God and belief in the dignity and sacredness of all people.

~ ISAIAHMN.ORG, *Faith in Democracy*

On behalf of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) and those we serve, thank you for your recent gift of \$3,534.00 for Safe House & Rezek House. For 155 years, congregations like yours have been essential partners in the mission of LSS, helping us grow from a church basement near Red Wing to offer services in all 87 counties of Minnesota. Your support affirms our vision that all people have the opportunity to live and work in community with full and abundant lives.

~Pastor Julie Wright, Director of Church Partnerships and Volunteerism, LSS

Thank you for your commitment to social justice and the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition. Your support allows us to work towards a more just Minnesota. Thank you for your generous financial gift of \$1,178. Your commitment to justice helps JRLC bring to life the policy recommendations approved jointly by the MN Catholic Conference, the MN Council of Churches, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and the Islamic Center of Minnesota. We are working hard to make sure all voices are heard at our State Capitol. JRLC is grateful for your support and activism.

~Anne Krisnik, Executive Director, JRLC

On behalf of Minneapolis American Indian Center, thank you for your contribution of \$1,178. Your financial support helps us continue in our mission and assist those in our community.

~Mary LaGarde, Executive Director, Minneapolis American Indian Center

**THANK YOU** to the Care Team who purchased and delivered Christmas flowers to our senior shut-ins and to Margaret Horstmann & Maria Reed who delivered gifts to the COVID-19 ward at Regions Hospital.

**THANK YOU** to all the children who helped tell the Christmas story for our 3 pm Christmas Eve service and to their parents for providing photos, encouragement and prompts. The following children participated: Natalie, Theo, Annabel, Nathan, Henry, Tarq, David, Benny, Camille, Reagan, August, Elijah and Isaac. Thank you also to Dylan, Audrey and Steian for providing the opening narrations.

It has been an extraordinary year! **THANK YOU** to everyone who pledged for 2021. Your continued support not only helps our church but also many in the community. As 2020 comes to an end, we are **THANKFUL** for all of our wonderful team leads, volunteers, and parishioners! We wish you all the very best. Here's to a happy and HEALTHY 2021!

## COUNCIL UPDATES

### December 2020 Council Meeting Summary

In keeping with Minnesota's social distancing guidelines, the meeting took place online. The meeting opened with a reflection on darkness and light in our own lives. Though times are dark, a chance sighting of a friend or neighbor, more time with family, and increased kindness and patience toward one another. As John reminds us, the coming of Jesus is a light in the world the darkness cannot overcome. It is a comforting thought in this Advent and Christmas season.

The staff and ministry teams continue to work hard to meet our vision of keeping Immanuel's congregation connected to one another and our community. The Membership team is establishing neighborhood groups throughout our membership area. These groups are finding ways to build stronger relationships locally between ILC households by getting to know one another as neighbors, allowing us to strengthen our faith together, and helping to alleviate isolation. Our online worship continues strong and is reaching out to others outside our congregation. Please pass along an invitation to others to join us for Christmas services and share the light of Christ.

Once again, we offer our gratitude for your continued generosity in an uncertain time. The Stewardship and Capital campaigns were met with wonderful responses. Christmas is a time of generosity, and our congregation has certainly proven generous.

The **annual meeting** will take place on **January 31, 2021, 11:00am** via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with a prayer.

The complete version of official minutes of each Council meeting can be obtained at the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Mattessich, Council President ([paul.mattessich@wilder.org](mailto:paul.mattessich@wilder.org)), or any Church Council member. The Council meets monthly, usually on the third Tuesday. Meetings are open to the public, and all are welcome. Currently the Church Council is meeting by video conferencing. If you would like to attend, contact any Church Council member.

Church Council/Team Chairs		
<b>Paul Mattessich</b> , Council President	<b>Ross Robey</b> , Financial Secretary	<b>David Alstead</b> , Worship & Music
<b>Kelley Wells</b> , Past President	<b>Dave Alstead</b> , Asst. Financial Secretary	<b>Gay Bartholic</b> , Stewardship
<b>Deb Ahlquist</b> , Vice President	<b>Nick Consoer</b> , Member at Large	<b>Mary Gwen Thompson</b> , Children, Youth & Family
<b>Martha Hansen</b> , Secretary	<b>Sue Klevan</b> , Member at Large	<b>Harvey Jaeger</b> , Property
<b>Mark Thompson</b> , Treasurer	<b>Mike Tjaden</b> , Member at Large	<b>David Hansen</b> , Membership
<b>Jackie Hippen</b> , Asst. Treasurer	<b>Lee Bjerke</b> , Finance	<b>Christine Danielson</b> , Social Action

Immanuel Staff		
<b>Cindy Bullock</b> Pastor <a href="mailto:cbullock@ilcsp.org">cbullock@ilcsp.org</a>	<b>Chris Cherwien</b> Director of Worship & Music <a href="mailto:ccherwien@ilcsp.org">ccherwien@ilcsp.org</a>	<b>Julie Lindorff</b> Organist <a href="mailto:julielindorff@gmail.com">julielindorff@gmail.com</a>
<b>Emily King</b> Children & Family Ministry <a href="mailto:eking@ilcsp.org">eking@ilcsp.org</a>	<b>Michelle Stillwell</b> Youth & Family Ministry <a href="mailto:mstillwell@ilcsp.org">mstillwell@ilcsp.org</a>	<b>Deanna Hesse</b> Church Administrator <a href="mailto:dhesse@ilcsp.org">dhesse@ilcsp.org</a>