



MESSENGER

Immanuel

Lutheran Church

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

October 2021

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FROM THE PASTOR

Who could've guessed what would develop in 150 years?

This month, Immanuel begins our celebration of 150 years as a congregation together. In 1871, nine Norwegian immigrants gathered in someone's living room to receive Holy Communion from a traveling pastor. They met again in February. (Communion was quarterly in those days, mainly because of a dearth of pastors). After that, they began regular meetings, and eventually became known as Immanuel Lutheran church.

1871. Imagine it — the gilded age in America. The civil war was 6 years past, and reconstruction was still in force in the south. There were no cars (1890), telephones (1876), elevators (1880) or incandescent bulbs (1879). The transcontinental railroad was completed just two years prior, and the opening up of the west brought economic growth and an influx of immigrants, nine of whom started a church. Who could have imagined in those days what Immanuel Lutheran would become?

Through two world wars, economic depression, air flight and space flight, development of the microchip and modern computers, women's right to vote, the Civil Rights Act, 9/11 and two pandemics, the people of Immanuel have gathered to hear the Word and share the Lord's Supper. We have been guided by the Holy Spirit to care for each other and the wider community and discover what it means to follow Christ in every age.

As I look in wonder at the past, I also look in wonder at the future. What



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

God With Us

150
YEARS

1871-2021

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Worship

We gather for worship with Holy Communion at **9:30 am** on Sunday mornings both in person and online. You can watch the livestream on our website, through YouTube or on Facebook.

Fellowship

Coffee time will be held outside after Sunday worship.

Faith Formation

Activities and discussion begin at **10:30 am** for those age 3 through adulthood.

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FROM THE PASTOR (continued)

will come between now and 2171 (150 years in the future?) Where will the spirit lead us? How will we and our grandchildren's children grow in Christ, live in grace and serve in love? It is a hopeful thing to place them in the hands of the Living God who has been faithful and always will be.

Happy 150th, Immanuel! May God bless and keep us for 150 more.

A sister in Christ,
Pastor Cindy

You're invited to our anniversary service

Please join in, as you are able, to celebrate 150 years of faithful community at Immanuel.

- ◆ A festival service of celebration will be held **Sunday, October 10, at 9:30 am**. Bishop Patricia Lull of the St. Paul Area Synod will preach. You can join us in two ways:
 - ◇ In-person — register with [our online form](#) by Saturday, October 9, if you plan to attend in person.
 - ◇ Online — the service will be streamed [on our website](#).
- ◆ After worship, there will be an outdoor reception on the Goodrich Avenue lawn. (Yes, you can come to the reception after viewing the service online.) Commemorative mugs — 1 per household — will be distributed.
- ◆ Next spring (or when it is safe to gather), we will hold a celebration banquet at Macalester College and host other events to celebrate our history together.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Join a choir!

New members will be warmly welcomed! Our choirs are back singing and ringing! Please consider joining one of our fine choirs! Our schedule for Wednesday afternoons/evenings:

- 4:45-5:30: Choristers choir (children in grades 2-6)
- 5:45-6:30: Middle C choir (youth in grades 7-12)
- 6:45-7:45: Jubilate Ringers (adult handbells choir)
- 7:45-9: Cantorei (adult vocal choir)

We have implemented the following safety protocols for our rehearsals:

- Mask wearing while singing and ringing
- 3 ft. distance between adult choir members
- 6 ft. distance between children and youth choir members.

Please note:

No choir rehearsals on October 20. It's the start of MEA break.

Mark your calendars for these special November worship services

All Saints Sunday: On November 7, we will remember with thanksgiving those who have joined the saints and angels in heaven. Our service will begin with a time of prayer and the lighting of the candles for our members who have died this year.

Thanksgiving: This year our Thanksgiving worship service will happen the Sunday before the holiday, November 21. For details, please check November's Messenger.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Kids' faith formation starts with 'Who am I?'

We are so excited to resume Sunday faith formation activities! We're moving away from the phrase "Sunday school" because it doesn't capture the vibe of our activities — from preschoolers to adults, we are exploring our faith and learning with one another and from one another.

Kids in the preK-grade 5 group will spend 6 Sundays exploring their identities:

Oct. 3 & 10: names (stories about Biblical names)

Oct. 17 & 24 [we're on during MEA break]: purpose (God calls Samuel in the night)

Oct. 31 & Nov. 7: skills/gifts/talents (Solomon's wisdom & 1 Corinthians)

Each Sunday of the 2-week cycle will be flexible enough to stand alone or connect with the other. We'll have take-home questions each week too, so children and caregivers can dig deeper together.

Parents and other caregivers are encouraged to help with our small-group activities on a regular or drop-in basis or take the opportunity to join other adults in Pastor Cindy's Sunday morning Bible discussions (conveniently also at 10:30). Faith formation doesn't end with confirmation!



Calling all 9th–12th graders: It's time to think about the Youth Gathering!

The 2022 summer trip is more like a staycation this year! Every 3 years the ELCA hosts a national youth gathering. It is 4 days full of speakers, learning and meeting a ton of other Lutherans. This gathering is in our own backyard, Minneapolis! Look for information to be emailed to your family about registration. **Early Bird Registration is due November 1.** The price goes up after that!

High school youth night: Sunday, October 17

Don't forget — high school youth nights are the third Sunday of each month from 7–8 pm. Exciting news: The youth received a Bright Ideas Grant for a portable Ga-Ga Ball pit! Weather permitting, this will be our first Ga-Ga Ball night! Come ready to play.

Confirmation classes for grades 7 & 8 are **Wednesdays, 7-8 pm**, outside on the south lawn (Goodrich Ave.). Dress for the weather!

No Confirmation on October 20. It's the start of MEA weekend!

FLEA MARKET

We had a SALE! Outside!

The 2021 Flea Market was an event to remember. From gusting wind and steady rain to warm sunshine, we got the full outdoor experience during setup, sale and cleanup hours. Our tents and canopies drew in many shoppers and provided a true flea market feel. We're still crunching numbers, so look for a full recap and fundraising total in the November Messenger.

You can still donate to the event, which is Immanuel's only source of discretionary benevolence funds. We are giving the proceeds to LSS Metro Youth Homelessness Services, Interfaith Action and ISAIAH, sticking with our mission to support community partners who are doing something about homelessness, hunger and housing issues in our city. Donate fee-free through the link at ilcsp.org/flea-market/.



Clockwise, from top left: Clothing Captain Heather organized sorting and display from the start of donations to the end of the sale. The Robey family and helpers provided concessions, also donating their profits to the cause. A cake walk, featuring Mabel's pecan pies, entertained kids of all ages.



SOCIAL ACTION

Sponsorships available for Guatemalan students

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a proud [Faith Community Partner](#) with Common Hope, a nonprofit that is fighting poverty with diplomas in Guatemala. For 35 years, Common Hope has partnered with families to help remove barriers to education.

During the pandemic, students are facing increasing challenges. Income, health, food insecurity, and access to technology are all factors playing into families' ability to keep their children in school — and as a result, Guatemala is facing an emerging education crisis.



Immanuel Lutheran members are making an impact and helping students persevere. Nearly 20 students are sponsored by the Immanuel community, including Juan Zuleta, a 10th-grader who is sponsored by the Men's Club! You're invited to also sponsor a Common Hope student to see the impact you can make firsthand. For a student in Guatemala, knowing that someone cares about your success and has confidence in you can be a game-changer. For the cost of one dinner out, YOU can be that person. You can *Be The Hope!*

[Sponsorpalooza](#) at Common Hope runs through October 15 as we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. Become a sponsor this month and help trailblazing students! To learn more, to go www.commonhope.org.

CARE TEAM

Donate new greeting cards

The Care Team is in need of greeting cards. Please consider donating any type of new cards (birthday, sympathy, blank) by dropping them off at the church office or placing them in the "Care Team Ministry" mail slot in the office hallway. Immanuel's Care Team provides companionship and ministry to members of the ILC community, bringing Holy Communion, visiting in their homes and remembering special dates. To learn more about this personal ministry, contact Pastor Cindy.

THANK YOU

- To EVERYONE who helped with this year's Flea Market
- To EVERYONE who generously gave their time to water the new grass planted in the boulevard along Snelling Avenue
- To EVERYONE who volunteers in so many wonderful ways

Giving From Anywhere

Your financial gift helps us continue to share God's message of hope. Here are some ways you can give:

Place your offering in the plate at worship.

Mail a check to the church.

Give online through our website at ilcsp.org/give. You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations from your checking/saving account or credit card.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY: HANDBELL CHOIR

Ringing God's praises in worship!

The worship services at Immanuel have been greatly enriched by our handbell choirs over the past 41 years. Our congregation has purchased 5 octaves of handbells and 3 octaves of choir chimes in this period. This is remarkable, given that handbells in the United States were first manufactured in the early 1970s.

Immanuel's handbell choir began in 1980 with the purchase of 3 octaves of bells. David Stark was the first director. The original five ringers were Barb Columbus, Shirley Evans, Chris Otteson, Terri Peterson and Claire Taylor Sherman. The choir met in a small room outside the balcony. In 1985 Janet Cruse took over as the handbell director. Deb Ahlquist joined the original five with baby Elsa in tow! The choir was expanding and needed more room, so it started rehearsing in the Pine Room. In 1993 Sarah Birkeland became the director, and the group expanded to 10 ringers. This choir recorded a CD, "Lord, I Ring My Praise to Thee," and participated in two bell festivals. Rick Paulsen became the 4th director in 2000, followed by Andrew Birling in 2004 and Rebecca Schultz in 2007. Chris Cherwien came on board in 2012 and is the current director.

Our handbells were crafted by a company in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Malmark, Inc. opened in May 1974. Their first set of 25 bells were shipped in the fall of that year. The company grew quickly and soon the sets of bells were expanded to 37, 49 and 61 bell range.

In 1982, Malmark introduced its Choirchime instruments as a means of meeting the demand for low-priced, high-quality handchimes for use in elementary music education classes and performance. The addition of choirchimes at Immanuel in 1993 allowed for the expansion of the bell program to the children and youth. Choirchimes have a different tone than handbells and are perfect for children/youth because they are very durable. They also provide a wonderful contrast in a musical piece.

In 2002, Immanuel made a large purchase of 37 bells with cases, tables and pads. Since then, we have added on to the number of handbells and choirchimes. The latest addition was in February 2020 when we purchased four large bass bells plus the case to store them in, a table and table pads. This provides us with an amazing set of handbells and chimes.

Many children, youth and adults have participated in the handbell program since it began. Many generous Immanuel members have contributed to our beautiful handbells, and they will serve future generations well!

Soli Deo Gloria!



Bell choir members 2012



Bell choir members 2019



MEN'S CLUB

2021 still not the year for lutefisk

Immanuel's Men's Club is again canceling the annual Lutefisk Dinner, due to covid-19. With restrictions on gatherings and on serving meals in the building still in place, the men are looking at alternative fundraisers to coincide with the usual dinner timing, the weekend before Thanksgiving. In a normal year, proceeds from the dinner might provide scholarships for Immanuel's Music & Arts Camp, sponsorship for a student through Common Hope and other benevolence opportunities.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Women (ILCW) usually holds a cookie baking day to produce items for the bake sale held during the Lutefisk Dinner. These events are also canceled.

Look for updates on the Men's Club plans in the November Messenger and the weekly News & Notes.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Try a yoga class for free (in a familiar space!)

Winged Heart Yoga is an inclusive and welcoming community for people of all ages and physical abilities. We explore how our yoga practice improves mind-body awareness and offer an opportunity to heal whatever needs healing in all of us.

Tuesdays, 7 pm (Zoom)

Thursdays, 12:30 pm (Zoom)

Saturdays, 8 am (Zoom and in-person at Immanuel if fully vaccinated and wearing a mask)

Classes are 60 minutes. The first class is free, and a punch card for 9 classes costs \$75. Click to [find more info](#) or ask Christine Danielson about her experience in Chrissy's class.

National Lutheran Choir presenting 2 ways to honor saints

After so many months of distance and turmoil, the National Lutheran Choir is returning to live performances with their annual program of remembrance. Join them in November for

All Saints: We Remember, a live concert, and **Requiem Aeternam**, a virtual program, to honor loved ones we have lost this past year through sacred choral music.

Audience-submitted names of those who are no longer with us will be shared during these programs as we each mourn and heal from the loss of important people in our lives. To submit a name, go to [NLCA.com/all-saints-2021](https://nlca.com/all-saints-2021). For tickets and more information, visit [NLCA.com](https://nlca.com) or call 612-722-2301.



All Saints: We Remember

Friday, November 5, 7 pm at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

Sunday, November 7, 4 pm at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi

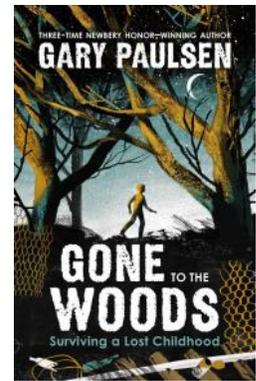
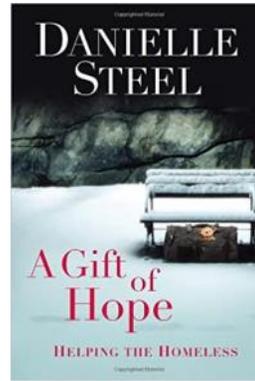
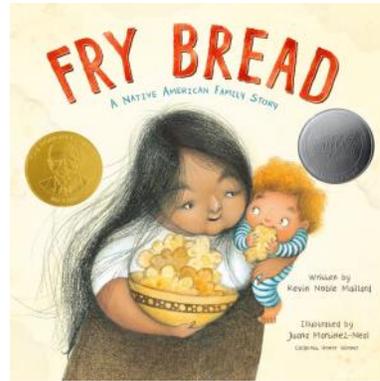
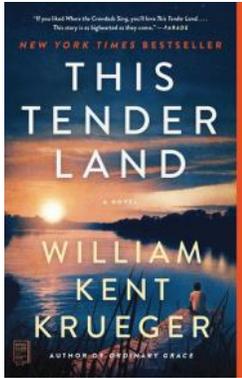
Adults and seniors: \$30; students: pay what you can; 18 and under: free

Requiem Aeternam

Virtual program available for streaming November 6–8

Pay what you can; suggested donation of \$5 per household

NEW IN THE LIBRARY



Fiction:

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger. © 2019

Odie O'Banion and his brother, Albert, are the only two white children in the Lincoln Indian Training in Minnesota where Native American children have been forcibly separated from their parents to be “educated.” When Odie, Albert, and a mute Sioux friend, Mose, decide to flee, they take along a sad little girl named Emmy, stealing a canoe to traverse the Mississippi in search of a safer place.

Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard. © 2019 (Children)

This is a delightful picture book for adults to read with a child. It pictures a Native American family making, enjoying and sharing a treat that is very special to their culture. The lovely illustrations are full of warmth and love, just like a good family meal. It shows how much one type of food can mean so many things ... family, community, history and more.

Non-fiction:

A Gift of Hope: helping the homeless by Danielle Steel. © 2013, Call no. 362.5

Steel is a well-known author of dozens of best-seller novels. However, in this moving memoir she relates how her intense pain suffered after the death of her beloved son was transformed into eleven years of up-close and personal acts of loving service delivered nightly to the many homeless people out on the dark and often dangerous streets of San Francisco.

Gone to the Woods: surviving a lost childhood by Gary Paulsen. © 2021, Call no. 813.54 (Youth)

“Gary Paulsen portrays a series of life-altering events from his turbulent childhood as his own survival story. If not for his summer escape from a shockingly neglectful Chicago upbringing to a Minnesota North Woods homestead at age five, there never would have been the book *Hatchet*. Without the encouragement of the librarian who handed him his first book at the age of thirteen, he many never have become a reader. And without his desperate teenage enlistment in the Army, he would not have discovered his true calling as a storyteller.

“An entrancing account of grit and growing up, perfect for newcomers and lifelong fans alike, this is the famed author at his rawest and most real.”

~ from the publishers

COUNCIL UPDATE

September 2021 meeting summary

The council met via Zoom due to the Flea Market. Devotions included reflections on the serenity prayer.

Our financial position still remains strong. Team reports were reviewed.

Due to covid concerns, the 150th Anniversary celebration in October will be smaller (and begin a year of celebration). We are maintaining a 100-person limit in the sanctuary for the celebration service. Pre-registration will be required. A form is available [on the website](#).

The Flea Market was adapted this year to be in line with covid protocols. It continues to provide connections with members and neighbors. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make the Flea Market happen!

The Riverside Innovation Hub work was discussed. Most recently, the RIH group took the Intercultural Development Inventory to learn how well we can adapt to work with other cultures.

With the installation of 14 security cameras inside and outside of the building, a video policy draft was adopted. There will be signage notifying people of cameras upon completion of installation.

The next capital campaign was approved. It will be a 3-part campaign, including retiring the mortgage, creating a building maintenance fund and participating in the synod's Planting Hope campaign.

If you are interested in joining any of our teams, or have ideas you would like to bring to ILC, please reach out. We are a congregation rich in resources and generosity. Thank you for all your continued support.

If you have any questions, please contact Deb Ahlquist, Council President, or any Church Council member. The Council meets monthly, usually on the third Tuesday. Meetings are open to the public, and all are welcome. If you would like to attend, please contact any Church Council member.

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

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