News from...



SEPTEMBER 2019

A WORD FROM PASTOR KEITH...

This summer's scripture readings have repeatedly called us to accountability and responsibility for the way in which we treat the poor, the widow, the orphan, the laborer, the immigrant residing in our land, and all those who seek justice. God's instruction from the very beginning has been that to walk in the way of wisdom and righteousness, we must live in active mindfulness and response to the needs of our neighbor.

The reading from the Gospel of Luke for the first Sunday in September recounts the story of a banquet at which Jesus was an invited guest. When he arrives, he begins to chide the other guests for jockeying amongst themselves for the seats of honor at the table. And then he turns to the host of the meal, and says, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

It is fitting that we will hear these words of Jesus even as the dishes for Café Immanuel will be passing through the dishwasher. Now, Jesus mentioned lunch and dinner, but I'm pretty sure breakfast was in his mind as well! You see, Café Immanuel is an example of the sort of radical invitation that Jesus calls us to extend. We open our doors to *everyone*, from folks who have no permanent place to live, to folks who will be living in the beautiful new building going up across the street. Our invitation is not based on whether those folks will make good new members of our institution because they might have resources to support us. Our invitation is simply to come and eat, and to experience the love of God in Christ Jesus in some way through us.

This is what the Reign of God is like: a free banquet where we intentionally have sought out broken people of all kinds, opened the doors, and said, "Come in and eat! You are welcome."

To be faithful to the Good News of Jesus Christ, we are to be radical inviters. We are to go out into the hedgerows and alleys of our town, scooping up people along the sidewalk, saying, "Come and eat! It doesn't matter who you are, we have bread to share!"

We often say, "You know, I don't really have that many friends or family I can still invite. They either have their own churches or are not really interested in church."

And to that, Jesus says, "Think beyond your circle of friends and family. Get radical with your invitation! Invite people whom you would not ever have thought of inviting before. Invite the least likely people. Invite people you have no connection to, other than a desire for them to experience the Good News." Radical invitation is the way of blessing.



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Peace be with you!

—Your brother, Pastor Keith

UPCOMING EVENTS AT IMMANUEL

Sept. 1	Café Immanuel new season starts 9:00 AM	
Sept. 2	Labor Day (Office closed)	
Sept. 5	Daytime Quilters 10:00 AM	
Sept. 8	God's Work. Our Hands 12:00 PM	
Sept. 15	Council Meeting 12:30 PM	
Sept. 18	Three Crowns Worship 11:00 AM	
Sept. 21	Quilt Viewing 1:00 PM	
Sept. 22	Blessing of the Quilts 10:30 AM	
Sept. 27	Evening Quilters 7:00 PM	
Oct. 6	Café Immanuel 9:00 AM	



SPRUCING UP OUR PROPERTY

Our building and property are a valuable resource, and the first contact that we have with our neighbors. As part of welcoming people, it's important that we present the best face possible. You may have noticed some of the projects going on. Jim McCarthy has spent quite a bit of time pruning and cleaning up. Jim and Kathryn Skelton paid to have overgrown bushes removed along the stone wall. Scott Romans and Fran Bushhammer had the bushes along the parking lot entrance removed, and donated beautiful planters to take their place. And then Sara Mauk came behind all of them and worked her magic with new flowers and plants to grace all the spaces created by this work.

Inside the building, Laura, Eliza, and Kevin McDaniel spent many hours prepping and painting the old Primary room so that it becomes an inviting space for public use. Many thanks for the generous contributions of time and money to welcome guests!





BAPTISM

On Sunday, June 30, we baptized Rosalind "Rosie" Janice Wenzel Jones, daughter of Elsa Wenzel and George Jones, and granddaughter of Dori Jacobson-Wenzel. Sponsors were Whitney Jacobson and Erik Fauss. We give thanks to God for this new sister in Christ!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SEPT. 8

Sunday, Sept. 8 we will observe "God's work, Our hands" Sunday. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ–every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life–flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

We are excited that this year we will be hosting four ELCA congregations (Immanuel, St. Paul, Grace, and Trinity) and two Catholic parishes (St. Nicholas and St. Mary) as we join together to do this important work of service for the neighbor. It is a strong ecumenical witness to the unity we share in Christ.

We will gather for a potluck beginning at noon, followed by a blessing and commissioning for service. Projects will include many choices this year, some indoor and some outdoor, and with a range of physical demands from mild to moderate...something for everyone... Come help!

God's work. Our hands.

God's Work. Our Hands.

One church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor





SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

Immanuel Lutheran Church
616 Lake Street
(enter at courtyard door on Sherman Ave side)
Lunch, Commissioning, Sending: 12:00-12:45 pm
Various service projects in our community: 1 pm-3:30 pm
Join us as we do God's work with our hands!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nina Cudecki 9/1

Margie Bjorkman 9/3

Allison Lamberg 9/7

Melisa Larson 9/7

Lawrence Lee 9/12

Elaine Nelson 9/14

Marlene Chatain 9/19

Carolyn Carmichael 9/22

Brian Lamberg 9/28

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH - BOOK STUDY CONTINUES

The Adult Spiritual Growth group that meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM continues its study of the book *Love Wins* by Pr. Rob. Bell.

In Love Wins, Pr. Bell looks at the ways in which the church has presented teachings on hell and eternal punishment, and asks the vital question: "If God's desire is that all of creation be redeemed, does God ultimately not get what God wants?" Along the way, he raises provocative questions such as, "What if the missionary gets a flat tire?", designed to get us to think about the question of those who, through no fault of their own, have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. Does a loving God condemn them because, through human failing, they've not had opportunity to hear? If you've ever puzzled over questions of heaven and hell, and reconciling a God of justice with a God of love and mercy, come join us!

In October, we will spend a few Sundays looking at what the Bible has to say about generosity and gratitude.

Our discussions are always lively and stimulating, and we welcome your participation. Come and learn with us, and come and share with us the insights you have been given.

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sept. 1 Pentecost 12

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Sept. 8, Pentecost 13

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Psalm 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

Sept. 15, Pentecost 14

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10

1 Timothy 1:12–17

Luke 15:1-10

Sept. 22, Pentecost 15

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16: 1-13

Sept. 29, Pentecost 16

Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

Psalm 103: 20-22

Revelation 12:7–12

Luke 10: 17-20



2019 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Gathering under the theme "We are church," voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church. The assembly, the chief legislative authority of the church, met Aug. 5–10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee.

More than 900 voting members:

- Reelected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer, currently serving as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, was installed during the assembly's closing worship on Aug. 10 and will begin her term Nov. 1.
- Approved the social statement "Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020–2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.

- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of Church and State.
- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in samegender relationships.
- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments. At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members approved the \$198 million campaign to help sustain and grow ministries of the church.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.

ELCA: SANCTUARY DENOMINATION



In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.

In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Following the example of Martin Luther, we believe

that advocacy is a crucial expression of baptismal identity. As a church, we have advocated for stopping the detention of children and families for decades. We have spoken out against family separation, sought a pathway to citizenship for community members who have lived in the U.S. for many years, and have taken steps to address the root causes of migration in a way that honors the humanity in people who must flee.

Through the ELCA's AMMPARO strategy, we continue this work. Talking points, articles, videos and resources are available so this church can have conversations about what sanctuary means with many of our members in their context to discern future action and direction. Becoming a sanctuary denomination was voted on and passed by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee.

Being a sanctuary denomination means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work. It will look different for everyone, but welcoming people is not a political issue for us—it is a matter of faith.

IMMANUEL'S PAINTED SEASON WONDERS

In the past few months, ILC received two beautiful watercolor paintings of the church building. As it turns out, both were painted by the same artist. One came as a gift from the late Judy Hokenson, and the other was brought to the church as a surprise gift by the niece of the artist, Anne Marie Carlberg. The niece, Louise Granville Riley, and her husband, Tom, happened to be visiting Evanston and came to worship bearing the painting. Both paintings will be displayed in the building.

Anne was a member of Immanuel many years ago, who died Nov. 24, 2015. We give thanks to God for this gift she has left to us. The following are notes from her memorial service:

"Anne Marie Carlberg was born Nov. 2, 1928, in Evanston, the daughter of August (Smaland, Sweden) and Angeborg Andersen (Oslo, Norway) Carlberg. She graduated from Evanston High School, studied at the American Academy of Art in Chicago, and continued her art studies as Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. She worked at the Minnesota Optometric Association and the St. Paul Hotel, where she met many interesting celebrities, before becoming a self-employed watercolor artist and professional framer.

She used her artistic ability to create watercolor memories of old family homesteads, school houses, "swayback barns" and churches... a reflection of 'yesterday' inducing fond memories for all. Past chairman of the annual Winter Carnival Show, she belonged to several watercolor societies; her work has been widely shown and is in many private collections.

Anne was gifted to play piano by ear and entertained many with her music and personality at senior centers, Har Mar Mall, and other venues. She was a member of the North Heights Lutheran Church and enjoyed her Bible studies and Christian Women's Club. Survivors include her nieces and nephews and many special friends. She is preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Phil (Helvie), Roy (June), Bernice (Don Graville) and George (Mary). Anne will forever be remembered for her contagious smile, exceptional wit, and being an inspiration to all who knew her."





INSTALLATION FOR BISHOP-ELECT YEHIEL CURRY TO TAKE PLACE OCT. 19 AT TINLEY PARK CONVENTION CENTER

Bishop-elect Yehiel Curry, who was elected bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA, on June 8, 2019, will be installed as bishop on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 2 PM at the Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park, IL. A reception will follow. His 6-year-term officially begins Sept. 1, 2019. He is replacing Bishop Wayne N. Miller, who is retiring August 31st after two terms as bishop.

The bishop-elect has served as pastor of Shekinah Chapel Lutheran Church in Riverdale since 2013, and as mission developer of Shekinah from 2007 to 2012.

Curry received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, IL in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in 2013.

All are invited to the installation and reception.



TAKE PART IN ANNUAL SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION CONVENTION

Take part in this year's Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) annual convention on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 29700 N. St. Mary's Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048. Registration before August 31, 2019, is \$25 (\$30 after or \$35 on day of event). Mail registration with payment by Oct. 1, 2019, to Sandie Schlauch, 7803 Palma Ln., Morton Grove, IL 60053. (The registration form is included on the next page.) Some scholarships are available; see form for details.

The event theme is Women Supporting Women, and the keynote speaker will be Brenda Myers-Powell, Cofounder and Executive Director of the Dreamcatcher Foundation. A portion of the convention offering will be given to the Dreamcatcher Foundation. Questions, e-mail Linda Miranda at linda.miranda912@gmail.com or call 773-332-1457. The Metropolitan Chicago Synodical Women's Organization (SWO) is also seeking individuals to serve as SWO Board Members and as delegates to the Women of the ELCA Triennial Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, July 14–16, 2020. Deadline for nominations is September 30. Contact Deborah Williams (dlbwwilliams@sbcglobal.net or 773-908- 8039) or Desiree Cole (desiree.a.cole78@gmail.com or 847-846-0187) for more information or to indicate your desire to serve.

LEARN ABOUT THE ELCA'S AAMPARO PROGRAM, SEPT. 9

All are invited to hear the ELCA's director for AMMPARO, Ms. Mary Campbell, speak at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 930 W. Higgins Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60195, on Monday, Sept. 9, 2019, at 7:00 PM. The word *amparo* in Spanish means the protection of a living creature from suffering or damage. The acronym AMMPARO refers to the ELCA's strategy for Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities. AMMPARO was envisioned after witnessing the plight of children who are forced to flee their communities because of complex reasons, including chronic violence, poverty, environmental displacement, and lack of opportunities in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. Due to our connection to companion churches in the region, including companion synod relationships, and existing ministries in the U.S., the ELCA is well-positioned to help ensure that these vulnerable children are protected. Ms. Campbell will describe the work our church does through AMMPARO. Come to learn how we can help make a difference. For more information about the presentation, contact the congregation at 847-885-7010 or church@princeofpeace.net

IMMANUEL'S QUILTERS GOING ON THE ROAD

The residents of Three Crowns Park have shown an interest in Immanuel's LWR quilting program. When Mildred Carlson ties a quilt in the card and game room, people stop by to see the quilt and admire her work. We decided to share the opportunity with them.

A bunch of quilts ready to tie will be at Three Crowns on Sept. 17 from 1:00 PM-4:00 PM. We'll have stations to sit and tie and stations to stand and tie. It would be helpful if some of Immanuel's quilters could show up as guides. If you would like come and assist, Bert Mount would treat you to lunch before the tie-in, but for lunch we need to make a reservation. Call her at (847-767-5732) by September 16th if you would like to come for lunch at 11:45 on the 17th. Then stay and help tie. You may also stop in and tie later in the afternoon. The more the merrier!



Registration for 2019 SWO Convention "Women Supporting Women" October 12, 2019, Holy Cross Lutheran Church 29700 N St Mary's Road, Libertyville, IL 60048

This form is to be used by both delegates and participants. Please duplicate as needed. All are welcome to attend even if you do not have a women's organization in your congregation. Check-in will begin at 8:30 am with coffee and treats available.

DELEGATE INFORMATION: Each congregation is to choose one woman who is willing to prayerfully participate in the business meeting and be willing to share information and inspiration from the day with her congregation. She will sit in the Delegate Section during the business meeting.

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	ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31:	\$25.00				
	AFTER AUGUST 31:					
	AT THE DOOR REGISTRATION:		2 2 2			
0	I am in need of a scholarship (Must be received on or before August 31. One per congregation.)					
0	I am interested in child care (Registration must be received on or before					
	August 31. Tell us how many chi	ildren and their age/	s. Please bring a	lunch for		
	your child/children.)					
0	I have enclosed my registrat					
	Lunch will be served, please					

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. Complete the Convention Registration Form above. 2. Enclose check payable to Metro Chicago SWO. 3. Mail Registration Form & Check to: Sandie Schlauch, 7803 Palma Lane, Morton Grove, IL 60053.

\$20 BY 2020 Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northwestern University



\$20 buys Wednesday Night Supper for one month for one student.

\$50 buys two books for one student for 21theo education hour.





\$100 covers the cost for one student to attend a leadership retreat.

Our goal is to have 100 new friends of the ministry pledging a monthly donation of \$20 or more by 2020.

Become a sustaining monthly donor.

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Become a sustaining monthly donor of LCMNU.

Your support makes the mission of campus ministry come to life. Monthly pledge: O \$20

□ \$50 □ \$100

If you are already a sustaining donor (\$20 monthly or \$240 annually):

O Other:

Pledge to increase

\$20

your donation by:
\$50

O \$100

O Other:

Name:

Email:

Address:

Your 2019–20 ILC Leadership

Sara Krentz, Congregation President
Linda Edlund, Congregation Vice President
Susan Ross, Congregation Secretary

Tom Couch, Greg Hummel, Melisa Larson, Kevin McDaniel, Scott Romans, Erik Shearer, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff Congregation Council Members

Joe Simchak, *Treasurer*

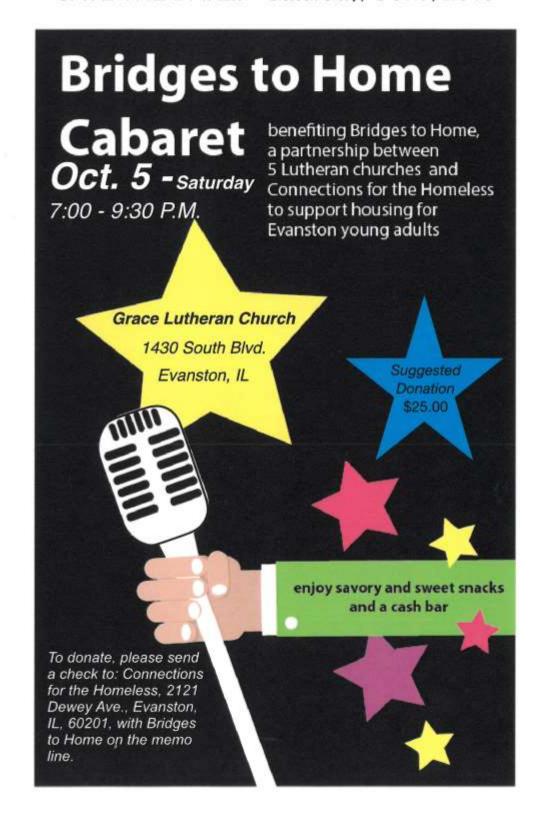
Mary Ann Kearns, Financial Secretary

Elizabeth Stegner, Assistant Financial Secretary

PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Keith will be on vacation from Monday, Sept. 23 through Monday, Oct. 7.

For pastoral concerns during that time, please contact Pr. John Lang, cell: 847-804-6493.













comes at a price.

SAMEGODFILM.COM



A FILM SCREENING

Sunday, October 6, 2019 - 2:00 pm

LOCATION: American Islamic College, 640 W Irving Park Rd, Chicago 60613

Join us for a screening of this documentary, which explores the controversy that erupted when a Christian professor wore a hijab to express solidarity with Muslims. Panel discussion with Dr. Larycia Hawkins, the subject of the film, and Linda Midgett, the film's producer and director, will follow.

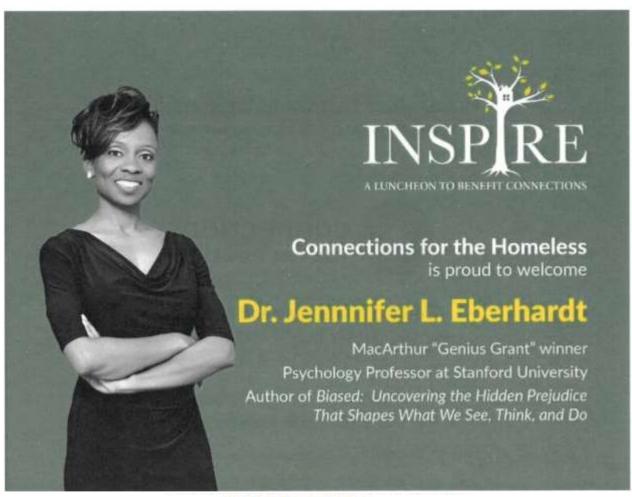
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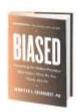






SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 11 | 12:00 PM The Woman's Club of Evanston



"A fascinating new book...

[Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt is] a genius."

-Trever Noah, The Daily Show with Trever Noah

"This book should be required reading for everyone."

-Robin DiAngelo, author of White Fragility

Also featured on:

Ticket sales beginning September 5! <u>Contact us for sponsorship opportunities.</u>



Connections serves and catalyzes our community to end homelessness, one person at a time.

Notes from the Parish Administrator

One Year Later...

It's been one year since I started at ILC and it's been a busy year! Working in a non-profit for the first time has been an enlightening but thoroughly meaningful experience. I've enjoyed getting to know you and thank you so much for all of your assistance as I learn the ways of Immanuel. Your kindness, generosity, good nature and patience has been greatly appreciated. Pastor Keith is a patient and instructive boss and much of my smooth transition I owe to him.



When I read in the newspaper last month that the ELCA elected at their 2019 Churchwide Assembly to become a "Sanctuary Church", I was never so proud to tell others that I work at an ELCA church. May our blessings and compassion for others carry us through in the coming years.

—Jane B. Kaihatsu

You've Got Mail! Church Leaders/Committee Members: Mail Call! Please check the slots by the Church Office.

Lost and Found: A ladies' sunglasses case was found in the Sanctuary on Monday, Aug. 19th.

MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATES WANTED

As we come back from summer, I'm going full steam ahead on updating Membership Records and making sure we have the most current information so ILC can keep you informed. If you've had any changes or think your information needs updating, please contact me and I can give you a form to complete so all of our records are up-to-date. The updates can include your spouse, children or other loved ones whose information you would like the church to have on hand. The kinds of information requested:

Member's Name, Address, Cell Phone, Home Phone, Email address

Emergency Contact (in case we need to contact someone while you're at church): Name, Cell Phone, Email

Member's Birth Date, Baptism Date, Confirmation Date, Marriage Date

Were you a member of a congregation before Immanuel? If so, please provide name and location

Image Release: Permission to use photos of you at Immanuel in the Church Newsletter or on the website www.immanuelevanston.org. Permission to use images of you at Immanuel on Facebook/Social Media.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.



PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

616 Lake St. Evanston, IL 60202

Phone: 847-864-4464

E-mail: parish-admin@ilcevanston.org

Website: www.immanuelevanston.org

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socioeconomic status and marital status, every ability and challenge. We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.