

News from...



Immanuel  
Lutheran  
of Evanston

**FEBRUARY 2020**

**A WORD FROM PASTOR KEITH...**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

By this time, most of you are aware that I will be leaving Immanuel on Feb. 9 to accept a call in our denominational office. I will be serving as Assistant to the Secretary of the ELCA/Executive for Administration.

This was a very difficult decision to discern, because I have a deep love for the people of Immanuel, and am excited for the work that God has been calling us to in this place. I am excited for Immanuel's future, and would love to continue to be part of what God is calling you into next.

I see all kinds of "green shoots" of hope and possibility in the things I see happening in this assembly of God's people. You are engaged in so many important ministries. Your vision has turned outward to the wider community. You have made your welcome explicit to all, and that openness has begun attracting others. Your worship is engaging and heartfelt, and centers and grounds the community. Strong leadership has been called into place, and is engaging a process of vision and structuring of priorities that I believe will bear much fruit.

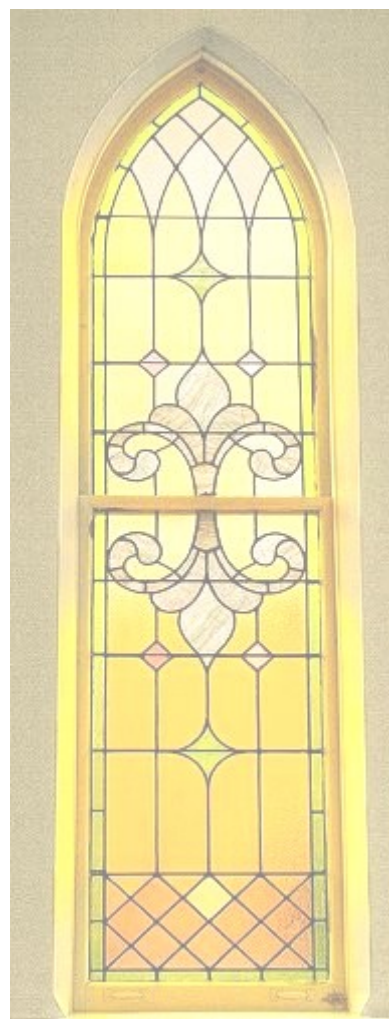
It's an exciting time for Immanuel. I believe that it is a moment of possibility, a moment where a pastor with a different set of gifts will be able to lead you and accompany you into the place where God is calling you next. I think my gifts have been used by God to "prepare the furrows" in some ways, so that new growth can come.

You are a gifted and called people—in fact, you have some extraordinary gifts! It has been a delight to serve here among you. You have touched my life, and I will never forget the experiences I have had here. It has been my privilege to accompany you on this leg of the journey. But now the Spirit has called me to head off to a different avenue of service, and calls you to continue on the path the Spirit intends for you.

I leave you with my blessing of peace and encouragement, and I ask your blessing on me as I seek to be faithful. I will miss you deeply. I will continue you to hold you in my prayers, and ask that you do the same for me.

In Christ's deep peace and joy,

—Your brother, Pastor Keith



#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- Music at Immanuel
- Sharing Stories
- Ash Wednesday & Lent
- Annual Meeting
- 2020 Organ Scholar Auditions
- Special Message from the Council President

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT IMMANUEL



Feb. 1	Quilters Super Bowl Eve Party 10:00 AM –8:00 PM
Feb. 2	Pastor Keith's Final Sunday Café Immanuel 9:00 AM
Feb. 6	Daytime Quilters 10:00 AM
Feb. 7	2020 Organ Scholar Candidates Rehearsal 8:00 AM—9:30 PM
Feb. 8	2020 Organ Scholar Auditions 8:00 AM—7:00 PM
Feb. 8, 22	Indoor Farmers' Market, Saturdays 8:30 AM–1:00 PM
Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28	Community Warming Center, Fridays 2:00 PM–5:00 PM
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day
Feb. 26	ASH WEDNESDAY Services Noon, 7:00 PM

## MUSIC AT IMMANUEL

### Music in February

February leads up closer towards Lent beginning with a traditional mid-Romantic setting of "How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings" by Vaughn Richardson. We continue with a Bach setting of "O Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light" following by a motet by Antonio Lotti "Mighty Lord, Thy Faithfulness Abideth ever".

We end the month with a rousing setting of "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" arranged by Kyle Johnson. Finally, we will begin our Lenten preparation for Easter with an Ash Wednesday service and Mozart's setting of Psalm 130 in Latin. "Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice. Psalm 130:1."

## SHARING OUR STORIES

Sharing Our Stories has been happening Sunday mornings at 9 am at church, and will continue on Sunday, Feb. 9th. You are welcome to have another experience on Thursday, Feb. 6th at 7 pm at Kit McCarthy's house. The address is 2415 Cowper Ave., Evanston. Please call Kit at (847) 863-8868. Come and hear and share stories of faith.

## ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES

On Ash Wednesday (February 26), we will have a spoken service a Noon and a service with choir at 7 pm. After that, we'll have Lent midweek services every Wednesday (March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1) at 6:30 pm. A simple soup supper will be served with discussion. Hope to see you there!

## ANNUAL MEETING 2020 REPORT

The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, Jan. 26th. The Budget was amended to add \$4,000 for Call Process expenses and otherwise passed as presented. The Financial Committee also explained the accounting statements, what we owe on our mortgage (for the Fellowship Hall project) and to our own housing fund (for the Sanctuary improvements), and how our funds are invested.

We amended our Constitution to line up with updates to the Model Constitution adopted by the Churchwide Assembly in summer 2019. These amendments were sent out to the congregation with the Annual Meeting Notice. Since they are Model Constitution updates, they become effective immediately and do not need to be ratified next year.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of five persons: Dana Barron, Lisa Larson (up for re-election), Bert Mount, Susan Ross (up for re-election), and Jim Skelton (up for re-election). The original plan had been to reduce the size of Council to eight members, but the Constitution allows for a range of folks. After some discussion, the congregation elected all five to 3-year terms, bringing the size of Council this year to 12 total. This was our previous Council size before we amended the constitution two years ago.

The congregation thanks Joe Simchak, who has retired from the Treasurer position, Sara Krentz, who ended her term as President, Kevin McDaniel, who completed two full terms on Council, and Pastor Keith, whose last Sunday leading worship is February 2<sup>nd</sup> before he goes to work at the Churchwide office.

We also thank Nominating Committee members Susan Ross, Linda Edlund, Erik Shearer and Terri Simchak for their ministry and use of the discernment process to identify the people God has called forth to serve in this fashion.

Following the Annual Meeting, the new Council met to elect officers for the congregation. Scott Romans was elected President, Melisa Larson was elected Vice President, Sara Krentz was elected Secretary, Susan Ross was elected Treasurer, and Mary Ann Kearns was elected Financial Secretary. Elizabeth Stegner will continue to serve as Assistant Finance Secretary. We are grateful for their willingness to serve in these offices.

Council will be installed during worship on Sunday, Feb. 2.

## CARDS MINISTRY

Know someone who could use a card to say "Get Well" or "We Miss You" or even "Happy Birthday"? Cards are available during coffee hour for you to choose, address and prepare for mailing. We'll have address for church members and stamps available as well.

## SHROVE TUESDAY WHICH COMES ON SUNDAY!

Join us to celebrate "Shrove Tuesday Which Comes on Sunday," an old Immanuel tradition, on Sunday, February 23rd at 5pm. We'll eat, drink and be merry before Lent begins. Festivities will be held in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Jim Skelton, 847-942-3001 for more information.



## FEBRUARY SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Feb. 2, Presentation of Our Lord

Malachi 3:1-4  
Psalm 24:7-10  
Hebrew 2:14-18  
Luke 2:22-40

### Feb. 9, Epiphany 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]  
Psalm 112:1-9  
1 Corinthians:2:1-12 [13-06]  
Matthew 5:13-20 [13-16]

### Feb. 16, Epiphany 6

Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-8  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37

### Feb. 23, Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### Feb. 26, Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Daily lectionary readings can be found at  
[www.dailylectio.net](http://www.dailylectio.net)

## ORGAN SCHOLAR COMPETITION 2020

The annual Immanuel Lutheran Church Organ Scholar Competition will hold auditions on Saturday, February 8th in the Sanctuary. We have expanded the notifications to a nationwide reach for an award of \$3,000 and a return recital. This promises to bring us talented and dedicated organists from far and wide.

This Saturday will be busy on church grounds, so please greet any and all over the weekend. The organists will have an hour to prepare on our instruments before their audition on Friday, February 7th and the morning of February 8th, during the Indoor Farmer's Market. Each contestant prepares a full hymn with introductions, interludes and re-harmonizations, a J. S. Bach work and a work of their choice for the competition. Stay tuned (every pun intended) for information of the 2020 Organ Scholar Recital!



## INDOOR FARMERS' MARKET

### 2020 Indoor Farmers' Market Dates:

February 8 & 22

March 7 & 21

April 4

8:30 AM-1:00 PM



## NORTH SHORE CHORAL SOCIETY—Our 84th Season

### What Happens When....

NSCS gets inspired by Chicago's most versatile women's trio? A concert that celebrates female musical leadership!

The NSCS is also honored to welcome guest conductors for a program of music by prominent female composers, including a commissioned work by Chicago's Diana Lawrence.

#### ***What Happens When She Sets the Beat?***

Artemisia Vocal Trio: Diana Lawrence, Alexandra Olsavsky, Kaitlin Foley, and Music Director Julia Davids will be joined by **guest conductors Anne Heider**, Felicia Patton, and Tierra Whetstone.

***Saturday, February 20, 2020, 7:00 PM**  
First Presbyterian Church of Evanston  
1427 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, IL*

### WELCOME, BABY GEORGE!

John Otto and Trixie Lipke welcomed Baby George Sinclair Otto, born on January 6, 2020 at 11:28 pm at Highland Park Hospital. Congratulations to John and Trixie and to Big Brother Teddy!

## SOCIAL MINISTRY—Immanuel's Warming Center

### Volunteer Opportunities Still Available through March

Since November, Immanuel has been providing a place to stay warm and safe for Evanston's homeless community every Friday afternoon from 2:00 pm— 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Immanuel's volunteers come to church around 1:30 pm to prepare hot drinks, such as making a small pot of coffee and hot water for hot cocoa or tea. They put out donated light snacks such as nuts, pretzels or fruit, and bring from the closet a stack of sleeping mats. Certain donated clothing items such as hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, and clean socks are also placed out for guests to peruse, and books and board games are available.

Beginning at 2:00 pm guests are welcomed from the cold outdoors into the warmth of Fellowship Hall. Some of the guests have sat at tables, but most found a space on the floor where they placed one of the mats alongside their belongings and took a nap in the peaceful surroundings for most of the 3-hour time slot. All of the guests were ready to leave by 5:00. Many expressed their gratitude for the congregation's welcome as they departed. Then the Volunteers did a light clean up of the space by replacing the mats into the closet and clearing up the beverages and snacks.

Three volunteers are needed for each Friday through March. Volunteers can sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact the Church Office. The leader of this ministry is Nicolai Schousboe. See him to find an available time if you'd like to volunteer your help. Additional contributions toward snacks and drinks are always welcome.

We are part of the city-wide network of warming centers and soup kitchens coordinated by Interfaith Action of Evanston. Other congregations involved in this ministry are Beth Emet Synagogue, Bethany Baptist, First Congregational, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Lake Street Church, Second Baptist, St. Mary's Catholic, St. Mark's Episcopal, St. Paul's Lutheran, and the Unitarian Church. The network has been in place for several years. Last winter we learned there was a need for a host congregation on Friday afternoons, and after much conversation and planning, Immanuel agreed to take on this ministry.

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Hal Larson 2/2

Josie Kearns 2/4

Linnea Balder 2/8

Henry Hathaway 2/8

James Skelton 2/11

Laura Skelton Yakovenko  
2/11

Nicole Darian 2/12

Steve Andes 2/14

Gretchen Gurujal 2/14

Kim Miller 2/15

Keziah Yarnoff 2/18

Catherine Stang 2/19

Rebecca Bernstein 2/24

John Otto 2/24

Greg Hummel 2/25

Joanne Shearer 2/25

Sarah Stegner 2/25

## AFTER PASTOR KEITH'S DEPARTURE

Dear Fellow Members of Immanuel,

As we all know, February 2nd was Pastor Keith Fry's last day to serve as pastor of our congregation. The church council has been diligent in beginning the call process with the bishop's office. The synod has certain rules that we must follow during this interim period, and council wants to share this information so that we all understand how the interim period will work. Specifically, the synod says the following of a congregation's relations with a former pastor:

*"When a pastor leaves a congregation it is not appropriate for him/her to continue to function in the pastoral role. This is sometimes difficult for people to comprehend.*

*A pastor should not be asked to do this or that baptism or funeral or wedding. If a pastor does a funeral for Jane Doe because she was so special, why not do a baptism for Sam Smith? Sam is special too.*

*A pastor should not continue in any counseling relationship with a parishioner.*

*It is not appropriate for the pastor to be involved in any way in the call process or to comment on a particular candidate"*

Pastor Keith is now our former pastor, and so going forward we must observe the appropriate policy constraints described above. Specifically, it is important for all of us to understand that after February 2nd, Pastor Keith will not be allowed and should not be asked to do the following:

- come back to Immanuel to perform funerals or weddings or baptisms
- come back to Immanuel to lead worship services\*\*
- visit you in the hospital
- accept appointments with you\*\*

\*\*The exception to this is that he can be invited back as a "former pastor" to help celebrate special congregational events, such as a congregational anniversary.

Any time a pastor retires or moves on to another position away from the congregation, the transition can be difficult for many of us and we might be disappointed to know that we won't be able to turn to Keith Fry as our pastor any longer. But the policy governing our relations with former pastors really is in the best interest of Immanuel and will clear the way for us to attract the best candidates to serve and lead us as our future pastor. If you have any questions or concerns about the interim process, including the policy I've outlined in this message, please feel free to contact me, our council Vice President Lisa Larson, or any other member of congregational council.

Sincerely,

Scott Romans, Council President

## VISIONING PROCESS

For more than a year, church council has been planning a process to discern what vision we will need to uphold so that Immanuel can continue to be a source of faith and service in the context of rapid cultural and neighborhood change. Under the leadership of Linda Edlund, Immanuel was awarded a grant of \$7,000 from the Metropolitan Chicago Synod's Fund for Mission in May. The grant is being used to fund an engagement with church consultant Brian Zehr of Intentional Impact, who is guiding us in our efforts to develop our vision for the future.

In September, Brian conducted a leadership audit among members of council and other leaders within Immanuel. Later in October, Brian led council in a full-day retreat. Since that time, council has focused its efforts in two main areas: streamlining roles and procedures relating to the way that council operates and developing the narratives that capture the experiences and commitments of our congregation. With the announcement of Pastor Keith's imminent departure, we realize that we may have to adjust our next steps to accommodate council's work with an interim pastor and the work of assembling a call committee. However, we feel the work we have done to date will be an important resource for us in the call process, and we will continue to develop our vision so that we can have a strong start with our next pastor once a call is made.

As Pastor Keith departs for the next phase of his own calling, we are aware that 2020 will be a year of change at Immanuel. Change can be exciting and frightening, sometimes both at the same time! As a community, we will do well to be gentle with one another in the context of this change and patient with the different ways each of us processes change.

The work church council has done on roles and procedures has been meant, in part, to help us get out ahead of change so we can better direct it to the benefit of the community and in faithfulness to God's call. You, too, can be helpful to council as it tries to be more effective in its work. We welcome ideas and suggestions for new ministries and projects, and we want you to know that early conversations with council will be most helpful! Agendas for our meetings will be finalized a week before our meetings, so make sure you are coordinating any business you'd like to bring to council well before the meeting date. Keeping discipline on this will help council be proactive and make sure we are making the best decisions for Immanuel's future.

## Notes from the Parish Administrator

**Contact Info:** In recent months there have been situations where the Church has needed to contact someone outside of the congregation on behalf of a member.

Therefore, we're asking all Immanuel Members to send the information of your preferred contact person, especially for in case of an emergency. Please send to the Church Office:

- Your Name
- Your Preferred Contact Person's Name
- Best contact phone number (i.e., cell phone instead of a home/work phone)
- Email address

Thank you for your assistance in this matter, and if you have any questions, please contact Jane in the Church Office at 847-864-4464 or parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org.

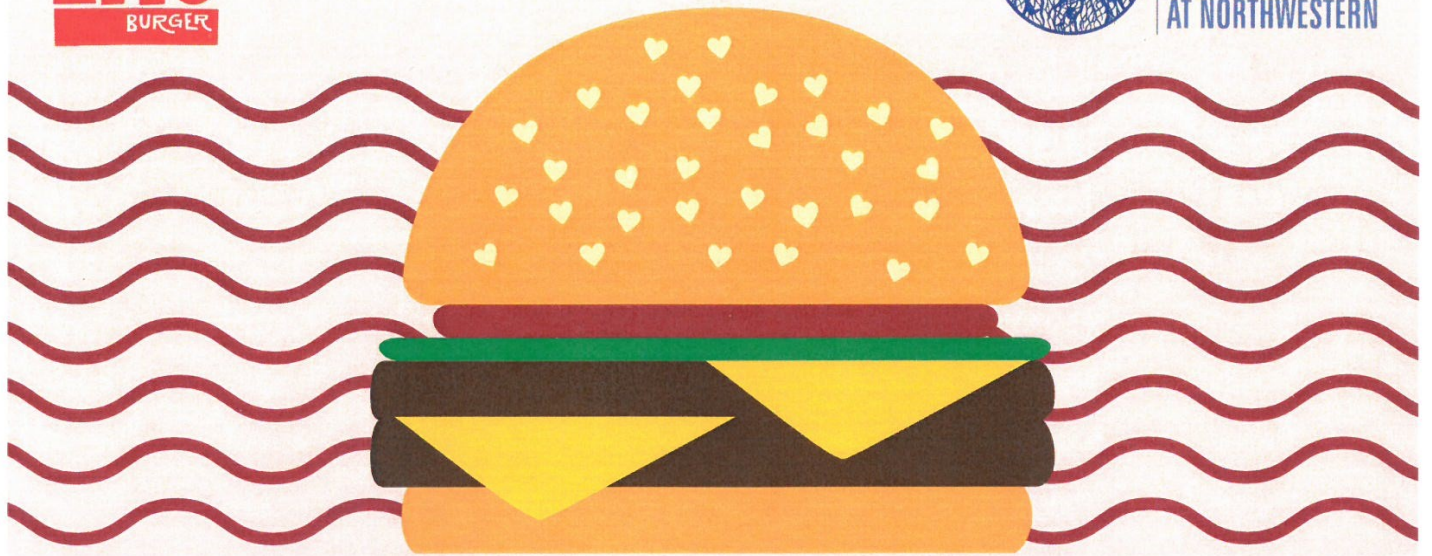
**You've Got Mail!** Church Leaders/Committee Members: *Thank you for checking your mail and clearing out your mail slots!*

**Happy Lunar New Year, 2020 is Year of the Rat!** According to Wikipedia.org, the Zodiacal Rat is the first of the repeating 12-year cycle of animals which appear in the Chinese zodiac, constituting part of the Chinese calendar system. The Rat represents Wisdom.





**LUTHERAN**  
CAMPUS MINISTRY  
AT NORTHWESTERN



# LCMNU EPIC BURGER PROFIT SHARE

COME AND ENJOY FOOD AND FRIENDS  
AT EPIC BURGER AT 1622 SHERMAN

**02.7.20 • 10:30AM-10PM**

20% of your bill will be donated to LCMNU to purchase items for Purple Pantry, providing groceries for Northwestern students experiencing hunger due to financial constraints.  
(Make sure you tell the cashier that your receipt goes to LCMNU!)

**If you want to go with a group, meet there at 6pm.**



# ***SAVE THE DATE!***



Announces the Annual  
**Vision Keepers Dinner**

February 16, 2020    5:30 PM  
Grand Ballroom, Hilton Orrington  
\$75.00

Join the IAE Board in honoring members of our faith communities who exemplify the IAE vision of interfaith dialogue, social action and advocacy. Tickets include a donation to support IAE's direct services to homeless and hungry people in Evanston. Details will be mailed in January.

***SELECT YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY'S VISION KEEPER BY  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23!  
DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE DUE  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3.***

**Immanuel's 2020 Vision Keeper is Charly Yarnoff!**



**connections**  
FOR THE HOMELESS

2121 Dewey Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60201  
847.475.7070

January 17, 2020

Rev. Keith Fry  
Immanuel Lutheran Church of Evanston  
616 Lake St  
Evanston, IL 60201-4413

Dear Pastor Fry,

We are in receipt of Anna Stark's directed contribution of \$500.00 on December 23, 2019, through Immanuel Lutheran Church to Connections for the Homeless. This gift is helping to transform our community and the people we serve.

Nearly every day there are people waiting for our offices to open so they can start their day with a shower, cup of coffee, and some lunch. This includes a man who is living out of his car, working full-time, and trying to find affordable housing and a disabled woman who has no support except for us. Last **month** we served over 350 people like this and provided over 3,000 services. Together, staff and volunteers are triaging needs and building relationships as we help the people we serve move forward and overcome their homelessness.

We are grateful for Immanuel Lutheran Church of Evanston's support, and thank you for your partnership in making sure that everyone in our community thrives. Please forward this letter onto Anna to express our deepest gratitude.

**Together, we are ending homelessness, one person at a time.**

Sincerely,

Betty Bogg  
Executive Director

**Tax Information:** Please accept this letter as confirmation of your donation. If you plan to use this receipt for tax purposes, our Federal Identification Number is: 36-3346917. As required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), this letter certifies that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. Your donation is tax-deductible as set out by the laws and regulations of the IRS. In-kind donations are deductible at fair market value at the time of the donation. For more information please contact your accountant or the IRS.



**LUTHERAN**  
**CAMPUS MINISTRY**  
**AT NORTHWESTERN**

Dear Immanuel Congregation,

Thank you for your generous contribution to Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northwestern! We value your connection to us and your financial support. It's great to have a partner in ministry like you - our young people at LCMNU are growing in faith and learning valuable church leadership skills.

LCMNU is a safe and comfortable place where students worship together, have fun, and act in service to the community. Thank you for being a part of providing students a "home away from home" at our center.

Please join us on Campus Ministry Sunday February 2. It will be a time to meet our students and worship with them.

Thanks again for your amazing gift to us!  
Edie Lange  
LCMNU Board Member



January 16, 2020  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
616 Lake St  
Evanston, IL 60201-4413

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to Interfaith Action of Evanston. Your contribution helps us continue serving hungry and homeless people in our community and to engage in advocacy that promotes social justice.

Interfaith Action brings together communities of faith and spirit to express our shared values with action. Through interfaith dialogue we build relationships and encourage understanding across faith boundaries. We partner with local legislators, community leaders and our neighbors to promote a healthy and equitable society.

Please check our website ([www.interfaithactionofevanston.org](http://www.interfaithactionofevanston.org)) for opportunities to join us.

I wish you days filled with joyful blessings!

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Susan Murphy".

Susan Murphy  
Executive Director

Interfaith Action of Evanston is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. No goods or services were received. Your gifts of \$1,200.00 and \$947.58 on December 31, 2019 is tax deductible to the extent the law will allow.

*Interfaith Action*  
of Evanston

[ia@interfaithactionofevanston.org](mailto:ia@interfaithactionofevanston.org)  
[www.interfaithactionofevanston.org](http://www.interfaithactionofevanston.org)

v 847.475.1150 f 847.475.2526  
P.O. Box 1414, Evanston IL 60204

# PETER MAYER IN CONCERT

Folk singer-songwriter and  
author of "Blue Boat Home"

**February 22, 2020**  
**at 7 pm**

Doors open at 6 pm

Unitarian Church of Evanston  
1330 Ridge Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60201

- **Tickets \$20 online** before noon February 22
- **Visit [petermayer-uce.eventbrite.com](https://petermayer-uce.eventbrite.com)** to purchase
- \$30 at the door
- Light refreshments available for purchase at the Blue Boat Cafe.
- **Learn more** at [ucevanston.org](https://ucevanston.org)





Archdiocese of  
Chicago Council of  
Catholic Women



Metropolitan Chicago  
Synodical Women's  
Organization

**31<sup>st</sup> Annual Lutheran/Catholic  
Morning of Dialogue and Prayer  
Saturday, March 7, 2020**  
***Bold Women, Then and Now***  
St. Luke's Evangelical Church  
1500 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL 60657

**Keynote Speaker**

*Jennifer DeLeon, Director of Justice for Women of the ELCA*

**Homilist**

*Rev. John Kartje, University of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary  
Rector/President, Ast. Professor in the Dept. of Biblical Studies and  
Homiletics*

**Offering Designation**

*St. Luke Academy*

**PROGRAM**

Registration, Coffee & Fellowship	8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Program & Introductions	9:30 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 pm

**Registration Cost:** \$20. Please make checks payable to **Metro Chicago SWO** and mail, along with your registration below to: Sandie Schlauch, 7803 Palma Ln, Morton Grove, IL 60053

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF  
CONGREGATION \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED @ \$20 PER PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dietary Restrictions – in lunch options, Gluten Free \_\_\_\_ and Dairy Free \_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE is February 28, 2020**

For additional information please contact Ruth Beck  
(rbeck303@gmail.com)

## OTHER EVENTS

### Keri Johnsrud

**Saturday, February 8, 2019 at 4:30 pm**

*Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 460 Sunset Ridge Rd., Northfield, IL, 847-446-8335*

Jazz vocalist/composer Keri Johnsrud, pianist/composer Kevin Bales and their quartet present *Beyond the Neighborhood: The Music of Fred Rogers*, a project that showcase new jazz arrangements of compositions written by the beloved children's television host. All performances are free. Donations are accepted.



616 Lake St.  
Evanston, IL 60202

Phone: 847-864-4464

E-mail: parish-  
admin@ilcevanston.org

Website: [www.immanuelevanston.org](http://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, socio-  
economic status and marital status,  
every ability and challenge. We  
welcome believers and questioners,  
and questioning believers.

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE