

July—August 2021 Newsletter

Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

As we begin a new phase of living through a pandemic and begin the transition of worshipping together both in person and online, we cannot expect our worship experience to go back to how it was before the pandemic.



Bishop Curry shared a pastoral letter this month about how most congregations are experiencing a slow return as they begin worshipping in person once again. He says, "Hopes for a hasty return to former routines, we've observed, have been somewhat dampened by newly developed norms and patterns that many in our communities have picked up throughout the pandemic. For example, one of those norms might be (for now) sleeping in or watching church online on Sunday mornings. And, honestly, that's okay! Let's remember, after all, that we are coming out of a worldwide pandemic

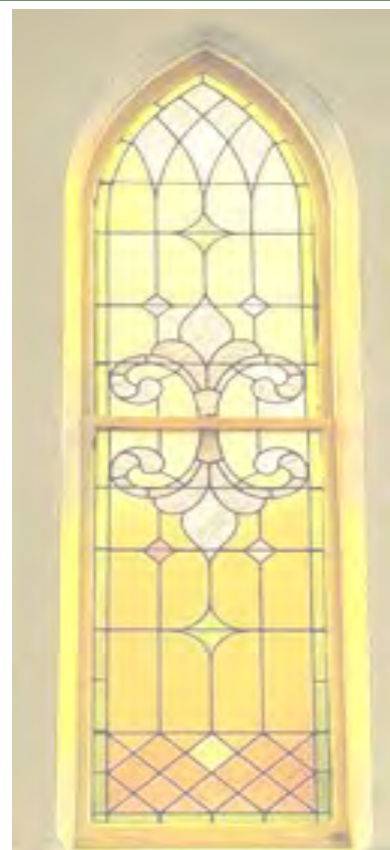
that has disrupted, shaken, and traumatized many of our lives and livelihoods."

This tells me that we need to be grateful for being able to gather once again for worship in our sanctuary (and for me it is the first time). And rather than build up expectations of everyone flocking back, we should remain open to whatever each Sunday brings. Our focus should be on the one we gather to worship rather than on how many show up in person and/or online. Our focus should be on how God moves in our midst, and how our worship feeds us for being God's servants of justice and love in the world.

I know that it will take time for us to learn how best to worship in this new hybrid kind of way. But I also trust that it will be meaningful no matter how you access it. I sense that we will be in this liminal space for a while, which can be a time for healing, restoration, and discovering new ways of doing things. I wonder what new thing God will bring to birth through us as we continue to build community, do justice, recenter our lives in worship, and welcome all. I wonder how the bread of life will revive us for our journey as we emerge from this pandemic into a changed world. I wonder how we will be called to give ourselves away in love and in so doing find meaning and bountiful blessings. I look forward to discovering together with you.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Mark



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Immanuel Events



July 21	7:00 pm	Wednesday Adult Spiritual Gathering on Zoom
July 18	9:00 am	First Hybrid Worship Service
July 18	11:30 am	Council Meeting
July 28	7:00 pm	"Our Pilgrimage to Montgomery" Debrief & Discussion via Zoom
Aug 4, 11, 18, 25	7:00 pm	Wednesday Adult Spiritual Gathering on Zoom
Aug 5	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
Aug 14	2:00 pm	Ernie LeVon Memorial Service
Aug. 15	11:30 am	Council Meeting

July & August Scripture Readings

July 25, Pentecost 9

2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalm 145:10-18
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

August 1, Pentecost 10

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

August 8, Pentecost 11

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 15, Pentecost 12

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

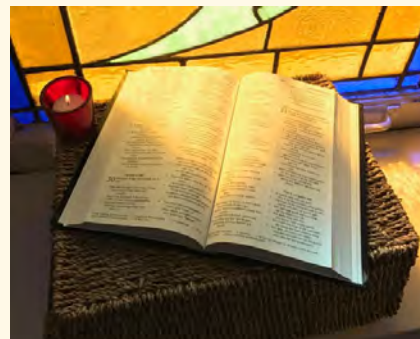
August 22, Pentecost 13

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

August 29, Pentecost 14

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Revised common lectionary readings can be found at <https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar>



“Our Pilgrimage to Montgomery” Debriefing Discussion via Zoom

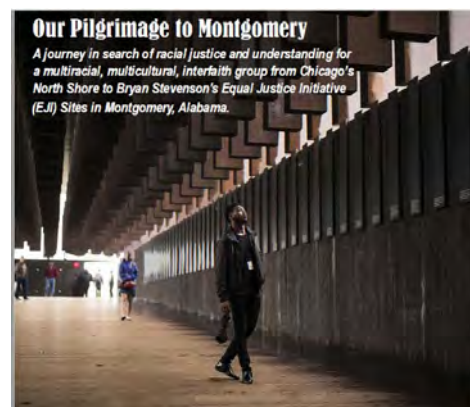
Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Since there was not much time allotted at the initial presentation for participants to discuss and integrate what they were learning, we invite you to please join us as we meet to further discuss our recent event featuring The Montgomery Travelers.

Here is the Zoom link to join the Debrief:

<https://zoom.us/j/97903590865?pwd=ZGpVUkdOQXBMZnNHMlpoQVZ1bEVlUT09>

Note: This event will take the place of our usual Wednesday Bible Study and Spiritual Growth Discussion on July 28th.



JULY & AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

(Happy Belated Birthday, if yours has passed!)

Faith Yarnoff 7/1

Parker Kloster 7/7

Joan Guess 7/8

Patrick McCarthy 7/10

Audrey Moy 7/13

Meaghan Ross 7/15

Christian Kloster 7/18

Jim Rakowsky 7/20

Trixie Lipke 7/22

Kit McCarthy 7/29

Elizabeth Stegner 8/1

Grace Yarnoff 8/10

Olivia Knohl 8/20

Judy Kratochvil 8/21

Alice Hancko 8/22

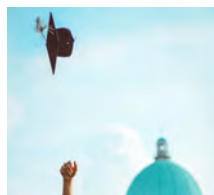
Maren Baylaender 8/28

Tom Couch 8/29

Wednesday Midweek Adult Spiritual Gathering 7 pm on Zoom

Our simple mid-week gathering (except for July 28th) offers time for spiritual growth in Word and Fellowship. Check our website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org or the weekly email for Zoom meeting info and themes.

Congratulations, Class of 2021!



Congratulations and best wishes to Spencer Moy, who graduated from Columbia University and The London School of Economics, with a dual degree (MA/MSc) in International and World History!

We want to celebrate all of our graduates who persevered during the challenging times of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

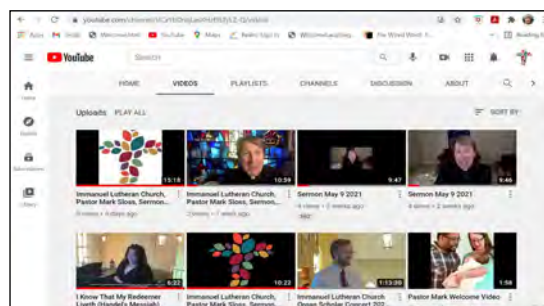
Please send announcements of your grads to parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org.

Catch up with Immanuel on YouTube!

Pastor Mark's Sunday sermons are now available on our a YouTube channel! Go to youtube.com and in the Search function, type in "Immanuel Lutheran Church Evanston".

Not only will you see Pr. Mark's Sunday sermons, but also our inaugural video, Pastor Mark's Welcome Greeting, and performances by Soprano Ashlee Hardgrave and the 2020 Organ Scholar, Dale Nickell.

Please subscribe and share with your family and friends!



First Sunday Hybrid Worship a Success!

After the church closed to in-person worship and activities in March 2020, the first “hybrid” Sunday Worship service was held on July 18, 2021. Hybrid worship is a new form and endeavor which entails live-streaming (broadcasting) the worship service live via the Zoom platform and having in-person worship in the sanctuary. Zoom worship sustained our needs from the early dark days of the Covid-19 Pandemic, through 2020 and during the first half of 2021. We remained connected and realized that even in the virtual world, such connections are vital and need to be maintained.



As people became vaccinated and the State of Illinois lifted restrictions on gathering, Immanuel decided to go forth with the hybrid worship concept. Certain preparations were made such as new equipment was purchased thanks to an ELCA grant, upgrading our Internet connection speed, and purchasing pre-packaged communion. In keeping with CDC guidelines, masks are required to be worn during worship and so PPE supplies were purchased (members are encouraged to wear your own masks.) As July 18th drew nearer, the wheels of worship preparation began to turn with the sign-up of worship servers and camera and laptop computer set-ups in the sanctuary. Run-throughs with sound checks were conducted. There were hours and hours of planning, outreach, and coordination with different members jumping in with their talents. When the big day arrived, everything was ready. We gathered wearing masks and practicing social distancing, and Pr. Mark preached his first sermon in the sanctuary. Afterwards, we went to Fellowship Hall and on Zoom for a festive and Celebratory Coffee Hour. Many, many people were involved in this endeavor and will continue to be, as we serve our congregation both present and virtually, in spreading the Word of our faith. It was joyous to see you on July 18th wherever you were! Please continue to gather with us in this truly 21st century phase in the Life of Immanuel!





Thank You!

June 25, 2021

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
616 Lake St
Evanston IL 60201-4413

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$500.00 to Lutheran World Relief. Yemen, one of the world's poorest countries, is the scene of the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Even before Yemen's civil war started in 2015, half of its population lived below the poverty line, a figure that currently exceeds 60 percent. As many as 10 million people are suffering from malnutrition, and nearly a quarter of a million are in danger of starving.

Lutheran World Relief helps those displaced by war and other disasters to survive. With an eye on preventing further spread of the novel coronavirus, our work joins host communities and the displaced to meet urgent needs. This includes emergency assistance such as food distribution and cash transfer support. We reach the most marginalized populations in camps and other areas of significant need.

Our work is designed to reduce food insecurity for displaced people and host communities using a mix of direct food assistance and cash microgrants. Lutheran World Relief also works to improve access to safe water, and to promote good hygiene practices by distributing hygiene kits and conducting behavior change campaigns among affected populations.

With gratitude,


Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)
President and CEO

As required by the IRS, this receipt confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for your charitable contribution of \$500.00-LWR.

Please retain this letter for tax purposes

700 LIGHT ST BALTIMORE, MD 21230 T 800 597 5972 LWR.ORG



Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

May 6, 2021

Dear Partners in Ministry:

I pray this letter finds you and your congregation hopeful and looking forward to the summer during these unprecedented times. Anticipation of what the new program year looks like as we navigate virtually and partially in-person. I trust that despite the current climate, the new season will be meaningful and prosperous for you all.

Your 1st quarter financial statement is enclosed. As always, thank you for your generous support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the synod, and our shared ministry. The impact that our congregations have in the world is truly amazing! I am proud to be a part of this effort and look forward to working with all of you in finding new, faithful ways to continue this inspiring work of Kingdom Building.

Blessings,

Heather A. Haynes

Heather Haynes
Executive Assistant to the Bishop

Enclosure

*Thank you for your continued
gifts and partnership! Blessings
to the Immanuel family!*

Heather

Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the E.L.C.A.
 1420 W. Dickens Avenue
 Chicago IL 60614-3004

Statement Date: 12/2/2020
 Begin Date: 2/1/2021
 End Date: 4/30/2021

Immanuel Lutheran Church
 616 Lake St
 Evanston IL 60201

Alternate ID: 1840

Activity	Annual Intention	Receipts To Date	Intention Remaining	% Paid
Level 1				
001000-Benevolence - B	\$16,680.00	\$4,170.00	\$12,510.00	25.00 %
Totals:	\$16,680.00	\$4,170.00	\$12,510.00	25.00 %

Grand Totals:

\$4,170.00



connections
FOR THE HOMELESS

2121 Dewey Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
847.475.7070

June 29, 2021

Laurie Stivers
Immanuel Lutheran Church of Evanston
616 Lake St
Evanston, IL 60201-4413

Dear Laurie,

Thank you for investing in our mission at Connections for the Homeless. We are thrilled to receive the gift from the Anton and Anna Stark Missionary Fund of \$500 on June 21, 2021. Your partnership is essential as we work together to end homelessness in Evanston and across northern Cook County, thank you!

Connections is grateful for your recognition and support of our COVID-19 response and deeply values our partnership with your congregation. Thank you for standing with us to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring in our community.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to continuing this life-changing work and locating housing for every individual in our care. Together, we will end homelessness one person at a time.

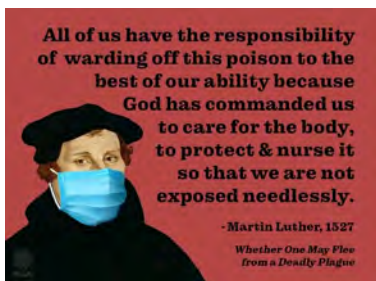
With gratitude,

Rebecca Immanuel
Institutional Giving Coordinator
847.475.7070 x. 143
rimmanuel@connect2home.org

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.

Notes from the Parish Administrator....

Church officers, Committee and Ministry Chairs: Please check your mail slots. If you need access to the office, please contact me at parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org.



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, socio-economic status and marital status, every ability and challenge. We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.