

## October 2021 Newsletter

### Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

One of my friends asked me what I enjoyed about being the pastor of Immanuel, and beyond the warm welcome that I've received, I also noted Immanuel's commitment to justice, and



especially a willingness to learn more about how to respond to the racial pandemic that has risen to the forefront of many people's minds. This month we have many opportunities to learn more about the history of racial violence and oppression and discuss together how our faith calls us to ongoing learning and action. I'm proud to be the pastor of a congregation willing to face the truth of an unsavory history and examine the ways that our culture has schooled us in the narrative of white supremacy.

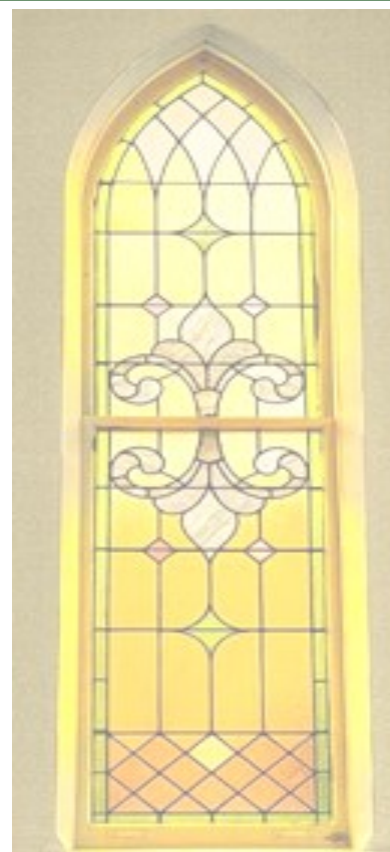
I encourage you to commit yourselves to this journey, trusting that it will draw you deeper into God's love, as we affirm our creator's care for the wellbeing of all people. As companions on this pilgrimage, we can face together the ugly truths of violence and suffering as we seek to co-create with God a more equitable world where all people can flourish.

On Tuesday, October 5th, please join us for a dialogue with Todd Maxman on the award-winning documentary, *13th*, about the loophole in the 13th amendment of the US Constitution that has led to the current state of mass incarceration in the prison-industrial complex. During our Sunday morning, Feeding Our Faith, adult class, Oct. 10th and 17th we will discuss the theological assertions of the late James Cone's connection between the cross and the lynching tree. We'll follow that up on the 24th with a discussion of a sermon by Otis Moss the 3rd titled: *The Cross and the Lynching Tree: A Requiem for Ahmaud Arbery*. And on Thursdays, Oct. 14th and Oct. 28th Pastor Stephanie Perdew will guide us in learning about the history and challenges of Native Peoples, who still live among us.

One of my great joys as a pastor is in seeing God's transforming power at work in changing people's lives. We have many opportunities at Immanuel for this to happen. Our stewardship team will be highlighting all month how the ministries that we engage in transform lives and deepen faith and meaningfulness for participants. They'll be inspiring us to grow in our generosity, which is another way that we deepen our faith. It's been said that you can't buy happiness. Michael Norton, who teaches at the Harvard Business School, says differently, "So if you think money can't buy happiness, you're not spending it right." His research shows that the way to buy happiness is to spend it in ways that benefit the lives of others. I think that what Michael asserts about buying happiness applies as well to living joyfully. There's much joy in participating in the transforming power of God's love that changes lives for the better. I count it a true joy to partner with you in this venture.

Deep Blessings,

*Pastor Mark*



#### Inside this issue

- Joyous Baptisms
- Café Immanuel-Revised
- God's Work Our Hands Recap
- Anti-Racism Task Force Events
- Organ Scholar Recital

## Immanuel Events



|                 |          |                                                                                      |
|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 3          | 9:00 am  | Café Immanuel Pick-up!                                                               |
|                 | 9:00 am  | Feeding One's Faith Hybrid Adult Study (also Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31)                    |
|                 | 11:30 am | Blessing of Pets at Coffee Hour                                                      |
| Oct. 5          | 7:00 pm  | Anti-Racism Task Force: Zoom Discussion on the Film "13th"                           |
| Oct. 7          | 9:00 am  | Daytime Quilters                                                                     |
| Oct. 9          | 10:00 am | Assisting Ministers Training                                                         |
| Oct. 12         |          | Indigenous Peoples Day                                                               |
| Oct. 14, 28     | 7:00 pm  | Anti-Racism Task Force: "We're Still Here: Native Peoples in the US" Zoom Discussion |
| Oct. 12, 19, 26 | 7:00 pm  | Tuesday Adult Spiritual Gathering on Zoom                                            |
| Oct. 17         | 12:30 pm | Council Meeting                                                                      |
| Oct. 22         | 7:00 pm  | 2021 Organ Scholar Recital                                                           |
| Oct. 31         |          | <b>Reformation Sunday</b><br>Halloween                                               |

## October Scripture Readings

### October 3, Pentecost 19

Genesis 2:18-24  
 Psalm 8  
 Hebrews 1:1-4;2:5-12  
 Mark 10:2-16

### October 10, Pentecost 20

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15  
 Psalm 90:12-17  
 Hebrews 4:12-16  
 Mark 10:17-31

### October 17, Pentecost 21

Isaiah 53:4-12  
 Psalm 91:9-16  
 Hebrews 5:1-10  
 Mark 10:35-45

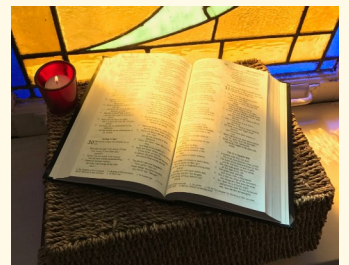
### October 24, Pentecost 22

Jeremiah 31:7-9  
 Psalm 126  
 Hebrews 7:23-28  
 Mark 10: 46-52

### October 31, Reformation Day

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 Psalm 46  
 Romans 3:19-28  
 John 8:31-36

Revised Common Lec-  
 tionary daily readings  
 can be found at  
[https://  
 www.dailylectio.net/  
 calendar](https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar)



## 2 Joyous Rites of Holy Baptism

In a year filled with much suffering, uncertainty and strife, we were blessed with two events of great joy. In September we were witness to the conferring of the Rite of Holy Baptism to three babies. On September 12, 2021, we welcomed to our faith twins Aleksander Robert and Thomas Harold Shearer, sons of Amy and Erik Shearer. Their paternal grandparents are Merle and Joanne Shearer, and maternal grandparents are Toni Peters-Fuhrman and Robert Peters. The twins' sponsors are Kerstin and Andrew Litwin and Hal and Melisa Larson.

Then on September 26th, Baby Sienna Mae Hewitt was baptized. She is the daughter of Anny and John Hewitt and her sponsors are Amanda Hartman and Jeff Bennett.

The Immanuel Lutheran Community welcomes them with the promise of a life of steadfast love, faith and caring.



## Music at ILC

With joyful hearts, we have returned to in-person choir during church. October marks another exciting month for music at Immanuel.

We begin the month with a brisk waltz-like setting of "Now Thank We All Our God" by Zebulon M. Highben. He contrasts this bouncy, dance-like setting of Crueger's cantus with a strict quarter time chorale. We then offer two modern motets: "Teach Me, O God " by Thomas Attwood and "Called to Ventures" by Robert Buckley Farlee. Both motets focus on servanthood and learning.

We then contribute a rousing gospel-like arrangement of *Amazing Grace* arranged by John Carter. The final Sunday lines up very nicely with Reformation where the choir anthem focuses on God's grace with David and Susan Palo Cherwien's piece "By Grace" with text based around Ephesians 2:8-9, 5:1. We hope to add strings to our Reformation service to celebrate this wonderful feast day! Come enjoy the music!

—Jimmy Morehead

## Cafe is Back!

In a slightly revised format. Until things loosen up, Café Immanuel will be preparing meals to go on Sunday mornings, the first Sunday of the month. **The Kick-off to this new format is this coming Sunday, October 3rd.**

This coming Sunday we're going to be going easy, probably fixing cold sandwiches that will be available for pickup Sunday morning.

We plan to prepare on Saturday afternoon Oct. 2nd starting at 4 pm. Also, we are also going to need people to hand out breakfast/meal bags Sunday morning. I hope you can participate in preparation or distribution as it would be nice to see your smiling faces (actually your eyes, due to masks) back in the place!

It's a new world and we'll see how it goes. If you'd like to participate, we'd love to have your help and your camaraderie.

—Tom Couch

# Stewardship 2021

## Building a Culture of Generosity – Challenge Grant

One of the first examples of generosity we have to tell this fall is how an anonymous donor has agreed to give up to \$5,000 in order to stimulate our growing together in generosity for 2022. This donor will give \$250 for any new intent cards for persons who did not make a written estimate of giving for 2020 or 2021.

And there will also be a dollar-for-dollar match reflected in any increases in generosity on 2022 intent cards for those who made a commitment within the last two years. The stewardship team is excited about the generosity of this potential donation. We invite you to join us in growing in generosity in order to obtain the full amount of this matching grant.

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This is a letter written together by Parker (that's me) and my Dad. We are writing it together because he types faster, but often gets a lot of details wrong, so I will be correcting him.

My first time being able to give generously happened at Immanuel. It was during the farmer's market. Lori helped me set up a table to do magic tricks. However, this was a while ago, and it's possible that it was someone else. Dad, can you take that part out, just in case someone feels bad that I got the wrong person?

I started doing some magic tricks at the Farmer's Market. To my surprise, some people started giving me tips. I had the idea that I would set up a box for donations so that all the money would go to the church, instead of me. This way, they wouldn't charge me to set up a table at the Farmer's Market.

Some people gave a lot of money, like more than one twenty dollar bill! I was shocked. I also remember one person who gave me a 2 dollar bill which was awesome. Seeing that giant pile of money, I must admit, I thought about how nice it would be to just take it all home. But, giving it to the church made me feel very proud that I could be helping so many other people.

I think I am going to mention Elora so that she will feel self conscious about being in the news. My sister Elora came to the Farmer's Market to help out the quilters, and that was cool, because that means when I was having no customers, she might come over and talk to me for a little bit, so I wasn't bored.

Is this getting too long? Do I need to edit something?

Recently, I got a job dog walking. It is my first time making my own money every week. And now I have an income of \$50!

Christian: You have an income of 50 dollars???

Parker: Yes, Christian. Go away.

After getting that job, I remembered a sermon from Pastor Kim. Actually, my Dad started reminding me of it CONSTANTLY. She said that when she was a kid she had three jars, one for sharing, one for spending, and one for saving. We thought that was a pretty great idea. Well, at least Dad thought that was a pretty great idea. So, every week, I have been putting \$5 into my sharing jar, \$5 in to my spending jar, and the rest into my saving jar.

Sometimes sharing isn't easy. Sometimes I need to be reminded. But, to see how much piles up just a little bit at a time, and knowing how much it can help other people, I'm very glad to have the chance to share.

As I am walking around the room, swinging a practice German longsword, I think to myself, "I love bananas!"

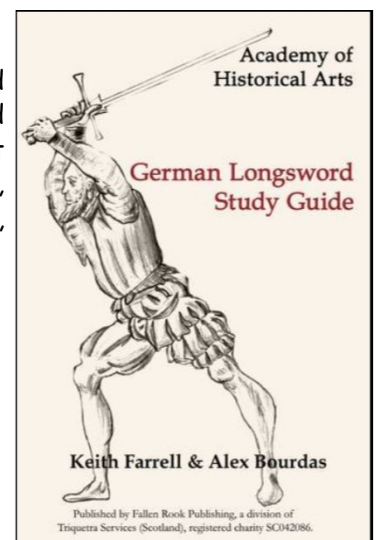


I don't think we can end it that way, Parker.

No? Ok. How about, this:

I'm glad to have started sharing money with Immanuel. How's that DAD?

Parker! 😊



# Feeding One's Faith – Sundays 9 AM -10 AM

## 4th Quarter Schedule

Join us both In-person and/or live streaming for studies about faith. Gatherings include viewing short videos and book discussions. Check the weekly *Immanuel Newsfeeds* or go to the website calendar for Zoom info.

**October 3:** Book Discussion on *Faith After Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What to Do About It*, Brian McLaren (Wilmette and Evanston Libraries have copies) [Read a short review here](#). You don't have to read the book to participate in the discussion because a video will be shown.

**October 10-17:** *The Cross and the Lynching Tree: Religion and Violence* – James Cone

**October 24:** *The Cross and the Lynching Tree: A Requiem for Ahmaud Arbery* – Sermon by Otis Moss III, (from May 17, 2020)

**October 31:** Reformation Sunday - *Rick Steves: Luther and the Reformation*

**November 7-14:** *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*, Barbara Brown Taylor

**November 21-28:** *How to Read the Bible* - videos from The Bible Project

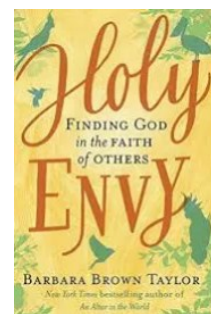
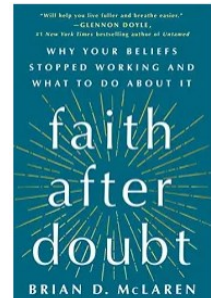
[www.bibleproject.com](http://www.bibleproject.com) 4 short videos on Introduction to the Bible.

**December 5:** Henri Nouwen: *Being the Beloved of God* (part 2)

**December 12 – 19:** Prayer (The teachings of 2 Richards, Rohr and Foster)

*What is Contemplative Prayer and Why is it so Needed?* with Fr. Richard Rohr -12/12

Richard Foster – *Celebration of Discipline* (Prayer) -12/19



### Tuesday Midweek Adult Spiritual Gathering

7 pm on Zoom

Our simple mid-week gathering has a new day—Tuesdays. This gathering offers time for spiritual growth in Word and Fellowship. Check our website Calendar at [www.immanuelevanston.org](http://www.immanuelevanston.org) or the weekly email for Zoom meeting info and themes.

# A Successful God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Members of Immanuel acted as God's hands in the community on September 12th!

Due to concerns about gathering for traditional service work on God's Work Our Hands day, Immanuel—along with Trinity Lutheran and Grace Lutheran churches—focused on gathering donations for three important services in Evanston: Connections for the Homeless, Interfaith Action of Evanston's Hospitality Center, and Grace Lutheran's Little Free Pantry.

The response to the call for donations was inspiring. All told, the three churches collected:

- 224 cans of food, enough for one month's stock at the Little Free Pantry.
- 104 toiletries kits, and about six bags of toiletries that were not in kits
- 15 packages of clothing items
- assorted other items including ear buds, luggage, and backpacks

\$400 in monetary donations, \$200 of which was used to buy food and clothing items, with the remainder going to Connections for the Homeless.

Immanuel's donations filled two cars!



—Charly Yarnoff



Also, at Three Crowns, six people tied 4-1/2 quilts. Thank you to all who participated in this year's God's Work Our Hands!

# Organ Scholar Recital

Friday, October 22, 2021

7:00 pm

Matthew Wachtman is Immanuel Lutheran's 2021 Organ Scholar. He will perform a recital in the church sanctuary on Friday, October 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm. All Covid-19 safety protocols will followed.

Matthew Wachtman is an active organist and collaborative musician from Defiance, Ohio.

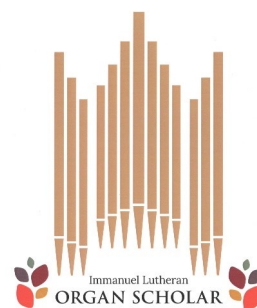
He currently serves as Organist at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Indiana. Beginning at age 12, he served as Organist and Music Director at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Defiance.



Matthew is currently earning the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he studies with Dr. Christopher Young. He received the Bachelor of Music degree in Keyboard Performance at Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Nicole Keller.

He has performed in masterclasses with Chelsea Chen, Dr. Timothy Olsen, and Todd Wilson and has been invited to play concerts in Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. Matthew earned first prize in the 2019 AGO/Quimby Young Organist Competition held in Cleveland, and was also the winner of the undergraduate prize in the 2020 Immanuel Lutheran Church Organ Scholar Competition in Evanston, IL.

Watch for upcoming weekly *Immanuel Newsfeeds* for more details about the recital.



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Knohl 10/1

Mark Kearns 10/14

Francis Bushhammer 10/16

Andrea Lamberg 10/17

Letitia Carlson 10/24

Diane Keely 10/26

John Fridner 10/28

# The Immanuel Lutheran Anti-Racist Task Force hosts a Zoom discussion on:

## 13<sup>th</sup>

A documentary film by Ava DuVernay

**Tuesday, October 5, 2021**

**7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Click to join Zoom Meeting (this will be our Mid-week Spiritual Growth Event) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643828175?pwd=NlhOVWI4M3dRZ2lUUNUY1BFTVpHZz09>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81643828175?pwd=NlhOVWI4M3dRZ2lUUNUY1BFTVpHZz09>



Todd Maxman will be our discussion leader. Todd is an Evanston native and Evanston Township High School graduate. He has been teaching Social Studies and advising at New Trier High School for nearly 25 years. Before that, he was stationed on submarines in the U.S. Navy for five years. Todd has been active at New Trier in its efforts to make it a more inclusive and intentionally anti-racist place to live and grow. He is most proud of his work as a co-sponsor of the Student Voices in Equity group and co-creating two new courses: Civics and Social Justice and Leadership in Social Justice at New Trier. A resident of Wilmette, Todd's two children currently attend New Trier.

Please join us in a dialogue about Ava DuVernay's award-winning documentary *13<sup>th</sup>*. Todd will facilitate a discussion on the film that will highlight local connections to the history that the film presents and challenge us all to dedicate ourselves to an intentionally anti-racist stance in our work and our communities.

**All are welcome!**

**Please watch the film prior to the discussion on Oct. 5.**

*13<sup>th</sup>* is available on Netflix and for free on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/krfcq5pF8u8>



# WE ARE STILL HERE: Native Peoples in the United States

A learning opportunity hosted by Immanuel's Anti-Racism Task Force (ARTF)  
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Evanston, Illinois

**Thursdays, October 14 & 28, 2021**  
7 pm - 9 pm CST on Zoom

Led by Reverend Stephanie Perdew, Ph.D.  
Senior Pastor, First Congregational UCC, Wilmette, IL  
Tribal Citizen, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma

**We are Still Here: Native Peoples in the United States** will engage those gathered in understanding significant moments in history for tribal people and nations in the United States; current native concerns and challenges; and the question of what non-Native people can do to learn about, advocate for, and ally with Native communities.

### **Led by:**

Stephanie Perdew, M.Div., Ph.D., is the Senior Pastor of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Wilmette, and an affiliate professor of Christian History at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL. She is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska, and is a tribal citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. She received her BA in Religion, Women's Studies & Native American Studies from St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, and her M.Div. and Ph.D. from Garrett Seminary, Evanston. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and resides in Evanston. Additionally, she serves as an interfaith leader in the Chicago area, and is a Christian co-chair of the Jewish-Christian interfaith dialogue for women religious leaders, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Chicago.



*"I'm yearning to learn more about the history and challenges of the native peoples in our nation. I'm excited to hear what Dr. Perdew will share. Who better than a pastor, community leader and a native person herself, to lead us deeper into learning how to actively live out our faith as companions with native peoples?"*

—Audrey Moy, ARTF

### **Schedule**

#### Thursday October 14

Who we are, what we call ourselves; where we were, where we are, and how we got there.

#### Thursday October 28

What concerns us, what challenges us, and what we can do.

### **To Register**

**You will need to Register in advance for this meeting:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsd-itqzoiH9xJ66MUOj7\\_nfapq9xcMQTd](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsd-itqzoiH9xJ66MUOj7_nfapq9xcMQTd)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**Out of respect for the leader and the learning, participants are strongly encouraged to commit to both evenings and to be on Zoom promptly at 7 pm for both sessions.**



## Returning for our 86<sup>TH</sup> Season

Julia Davids, Music Director

Sunday, October 24<sup>TH</sup> 2021

Sunday, April 10<sup>TH</sup> 2022

Sunday, June 5<sup>TH</sup> 2022

The North Shore Choral Society is back! Their first concert is Sunday, October 24, 2021 at 4:00 pm, at the Unitarian Church of Evanston on Ridge Ave. The performance is entitled *Free at Last* and features Thomas W. Jefferson's spiritual arrangements for piano along with Felicia Patton, soprano and Tierra Whetston, mezzo soprano.

Also *Free at Last*, composed by Chicago Composer Lena McLin will be performed. The concert will feature the world premiere of *The Gettysburg Address*, by David Burger, commissioned for conductor Dr. Julia Davids and the NSCS. Tickets can be purchased at [northshorechoral.org](http://northshorechoral.org). This concert will be offered both live and via livestream.

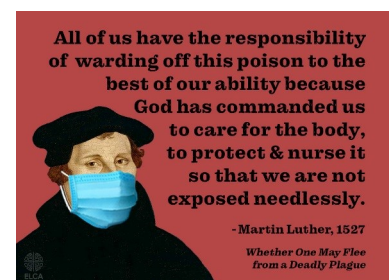
Immanuel's Anne Heider and Steve Warner are members of the NSCS.



## Our Ayla!

A shout-out to Immanuel's own Ayla Pizzo, for making the cover of *Our Evanston*, a retail community magazine. Ayla's shop, *Ayla's Originals* which is located on Sherman Avenue, is one of the featured retail businesses who've operated during the pandemic.

Congratulations, Ayla & Joe!



## Notes from the Parish Administrator....



Church officers, Committee and Ministry Chairs: Mail is piling up! Please check your mail slots. If you need access to the office, please contact me at [parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org](mailto:parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org).

As users return to the building, please practice good stewardship by turning off all lights, dumping trash properly, and making sure doors are locked and secure after the close of activities.



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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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.