



"Faith That Feeds" www.immanuelevanston.org

We believe that faith should feed and nurture our spirits.
We believe also that faith should lead us to feed people
in the many different ways they hunger,
both physically and spiritually.

## **November 2021 Newsletter**

## Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

Our faith is built on the foundation of those who have gone before us and inspired us to trust in God's love with our whole beings. On the first Sunday of November, we celebrate All Saints



Sunday and call to mind specific people whose counsel and example form us in faith. Who will you especially remember this year?

For me, it will be Ken Baar. Ken was the pastor of my youth, who taught me the basics of faith during Confirmation class at Redeemer Lutheran Church. He was a gentle and caring man, who I knew loved and cared about me. I was friends with his son, and so I also saw him at his home and came to relish seeing his infectious smile.

Ken was the person who initially planted in me the seed of a potential call to ministry, though at the time I though considered it very farfetched. But eventually that seed germinated, took root, and began to grow. Once I was ordained, Ken became a colleague. He was Dean of the conference that I was in for my first call. I was honored when invited to be the guest preacher back at my home congregation on the celebrative occasion of Ken's retirement on a Reformation Sunday. We kept in touch over the years. Ken and his wife would make a concerted effort to visit me in Indiana and Kentucky when they were passing through from visiting relatives in Wisconsin. I last visited with Ken in his nursing home room in Florida during February of 2020, a month before the Covid-19 pandemic sent us all into lockdown, and then Ken died about 3 months later. Even then, legally blinded by diabetes, and with failing health, he was interested in hearing about my life and ministry and still had that infectious smile.

He taught me as much about a life of faith by living it, as by anything he said in his preaching and teaching. He embodied for me God's gracious love.

So, who have been the ones that have inspired your life of faith? Who have been the saints, who have gone before you, and still inspire you as you remember them? Who are the saints, still living, who encourage you and journey with you on the road of faith? Call them to mind as we gather to worship and celebrate how God gathers us all together as the communion of saints.

Deep Blessings,

Paster Mark



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Immanuel Events		
Nov. 1		First Day of American Indian Heritage Month
Nov. 4	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
Nov. 7		DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS! (Fall Back/Turn clocks back)
	9:00 am	Café Immanuel Pick-up
	9:00 am	Feeding One's Faith Hybrid Adult Study (also Nov. 14, 21, 28)
	10:30 am	All Saints Sunday
Nov. 9, 16 23, 30	7:00 pm	Tuesday Adult Spiritual Gathering on Zoom
Nov. 20	8:00 am	Indoor Farmers' Market
Nov. 21	10:30 am	Christ the King Sunday
	12:30 pm	Council Meeting
Nov. 25		Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 28	10:30 am	First Sunday of Advent

## **November Scripture Readings**

#### **November 7, All Saints Sunday**

Isaiah 25:6-9, Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalm 24

Revelations 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

#### November 14, Pentecost 25

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

#### November 21, Christ the King

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm 93

Revelations 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

#### November 28, Advent 1

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

Revised Common Lectionary daily readings can be found at <a href="https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar">https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar</a>



## **Music at ILC**

November is a whirlwind of a month for celebrations and singing at Immanuel. We begin by celebrating All Saints with an impassioned British choral work by Ernest Bullock with text by Isaac Watts, *Give Us the Wings of Faith*.

We then turn to a Johannes Brahms setting of *Ach, Arme Welt* in three strophes. And just like that we have arrived at the end of the church year with Reign of Christ Sunday, when the choir will offer a rousing anthem by Robert J. Powell called "*Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices*." And finally, right after Thanksgiving, we begin Advent before December and begin our new church year with a new choral melody and setting of the beautiful Advent text, O *Come, O Come, Emmanuel*!

—Jimmy Morehead



## Cafe McManuel—Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021

We're going to give another go for Cafe Immanuel to go this coming Sunday. We'll be making hot Cafe McManuel sandwich bags to go. So we'll be preparing Sunday Morning. If you could come cook and or help prepare sandwich bags please do. We'd love to see you!

—Tom Couch

## **Organ Scholar Concert**

On October 22, 2021 at 7 pm we hosted our second Organ Scholar Concert with a rousing performance by Matthew Wachtman, the first undergraduate recipient of the award. This time the performance was held both in-person and via livestreaming on Zoom. All Covid-19 safety protocols were followed. Afterwards, the in-person guests were treated to a light champagne reception.

Congratulations again to Matthew and thank you to the Organ Scholar Committee, the Reception Committee, and all of the crew on camera and audio who worked to make this hybrid concert a success!















## Stewardship 2021

#### **Growing in Generosity**

Thanks to everyone who participated in last Sunday's ingathering of commitment cards for our Stewardship Campaign, *Growing in Generosity*! We look forward to tabulating the results and reporting back to the congregation in the coming weeks.

If you weren't able to submit your card on October 31st, please note that it is not too late, and you are welcome to bring it next Sunday. As an alternative you can go to the Stewardship page on the Immanuel website (https://immanuelevanston.org/stewardship/) and use a fillable form that can be emailed to giving@immanuelevanston.org.

If you would prefer to have a conversation about your pledge with someone on the Stewardship Committee, we will be reaching out to those we haven't heard from after November 15th.

Even if you are not in a position to make a financial commitment this year, it is helpful for us to know that. Also, we recognize that circumstances can change midyear for people, and when this happens we certainly can adjust what has been recorded for your pledge.

Finally, thanks to everyone who helped out with this year's campaign, including **Parker Kloster**, who wrote a great newsletter article, **Laurie Stivers**, **Elizabeth Stegner**, and **Charly Yarnoff**, who gave Temple Talks, and the members of our **Stewardship Committee** (**Dana Barron**, **Chris Djuric**, **Michael Kloster**, **Pastor Sloss**, and **Elizabeth Stegner**).

Scott Romans Chair, Stewardship Committee

# **Anti-Racist Task Force (ARTF): Engaging Presentations on Little-discussed Topics**

The ARTF wants to simply help our congregation become more aware of our shared history, and hopefully that understanding will lead to personal and collective growth, and possibly some actionable component that will bring about a positive change.

We want to bring excellent speakers to our platform as we continue our journey on becoming anti-racists.

To that end, during the month of October, the ARTF organized and hosted several exciting events. On October 5th, New Trier's Social Studies teacher and Historian, Todd Maxman, discussed Ava Durvernay's award winning documentary, "13th."

A must-see film if one is to understand how and why mass incarceration is one of the central components of systemic racism in America.

Todd was born and raised in Evanston and graduated ETHS in 1986. Therefore, he was able to give us a curated account of Evanston's history that was both factual and personal. He brought us specific ways in which to fully engage in difficult conversations concerning race and related topics. Todd ensures that his students are seen and heard, regardless of how they identify.

On October 14th and 28th, we were honored to host Rev. Dr. Stephanie Perdew, Senior pastor at First Congregational Church, in Wilmette. **Dr. Perdew is a proud member of the Cherokee Nation and gave participants a comprehensive look into the overall history of the Native Peoples of America, tapping into seven generations of her own family, in addition to the political framework that affected and still affects Native Peoples.** 

Our programs have been well-attended (mainly by community members), and are engaging—each one creatively distinctive and informative. We create these programs for you and encourage you to join us at future events. Past presentations, except for Dr. Perdew's, are available on our YouTube channel, and the church's website contains more detailed information. If you did not register for Dr. Perdew's presentation, and want to watch the recording, church members may contact Audrey Moy or Pastor Mark via the church office (847-864-4464, info@immanuelevanston.org). Should you wish to share the content of Dr. Perdew's presentation with a wider audience outside of your family, you will need Dr. Perdew's sole consent.

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

#### November & December 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.

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

**November 21**: Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, Life After Death: Jesus, Judaism and Justice

November 28: Dr Wil Gafney, Biblical Language for a God Who Transcends Gender

**December 5:** Diana Butler, Jesus the Ingrate: The Subversive Power of Gratitude

**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



Elizabeth Stegner, Kit McCarthy, and Tyler Heyl and Pastor Mark will be serving on the Mutual Ministry Committee. We will be focusing broadly on the mutual ministry of the congregation, with the goal of healthy support the mission God has for us.

This group will focus on the health of the congregation's mission. It is not the committee that ministers to the pastor or meets the pastor's personal, psychological, and spiritual needs for support, nor is it the committee through which the congregation filters its complaints about the pastor. The former confuses the necessary distinction between the roles of pastor and people; the later fosters an ineffective, often harmful approach to dealing honestly with conflict. (from *Pastor and People: Making Mutual Ministry Work* – the resource we're following for this committee)

Thanks to Elizabeth, Kit, and Tyler for their willingness to serve in this way!

## 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 or the weekly email for Zoom meeting info and themes.

#### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Logan Hanson 11/1

Rosemary Gurujal 11/2

Dana Barron 11/4

Thomas Nakic 11/5

Edward Carlson 11/11

Chrstine Imhoff 11/12

Jack Cudecki 11/13

Jean Kantner 11/15

Peter Moy 11/21

Scott Romans 11/29

Mesrop Darian 11/30

## SNAPGap Personal Hygiene/Cleaning Products Drive

Nov. 6, 2021

"We are gearing up SNAPGap for a November 9 distribution date at the Producemobile! For those of you new to this program, SNAPGap collects personal hygiene and cleaning products that cannot be purchased with federal benefits and distributes them to people in need via Interfaith Action's Producemobile.

As usual, folks can purchase items online and have them delivered to Rita Bailey (see below). Or these items can be purchased locally and dropped off at Northminster Presbyterian Church on November 6 from 10 am - 12 noon.

This will be our last collection in 2021. We will also distribute toilet paper, purchased in bulk, and in December, we will have boxes of laundry sheets, donated by Earth Breeze!

#### Collecting:

- Deodorant (women's and men's)
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/registry/ wishlist/EU78AK7T6LVH/ ref=cm\_wl\_huc\_view

Purchases should be delivered to Rita Bailey:

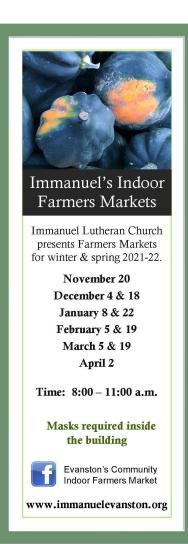
Interfaith Action of Evanston c/o Rita Bailey 2326 Bryant Evanston, IL 60201

For items purchased locally, folks can drop them off at:

Northminster Presbyterian Church 2515 Central Park Ave Evanston, IL 60201

Drop-off day: Saturday Nov. 6, 10 am-12 noon

--Nicolai, Social Ministry









#### These gifts do a lot of good.

Wondering how you can make a positive impact in the world right now? With ELCA Good Gifts, you can choose from more than 50 charitable gifts to give in honor of friends and loved ones. Each of these gifts makes a real impact in the world, sharing the love of Christ one goat, water well or school uniform at a time.

Start your holiday shopping now and order free, customized cards for each gift you give. Please give by Nov. 26 to ensure that your cards arrive in time for Christmas (slower mail times are expected this year due to post office changes). Print-at-home and online cards are also available instantly at any time.

Click here to get started on holiday shopping.



## **Introducing:** *Project Room at the Inn*



Project Room at the Inn is the Christmas engagement program through Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). The pandemic has challenged us all to reexamine how we engage with our communities, which inspired LSSI's Project Room at the Inn.

Project Room at the Inn is based on the Bible passage where Mary and Joseph were looking for a place to rest so that Mary could give birth to Jesus. The inn that they encountered had no

room, but the owner allowed them to stay in the manger with the animals, which they gratefully did. What we learned from this act of kindness is that God made a way in what appeared to be an impossible situation. In the same way, we trust that God will make a way and bless the lives of the children in our programs.

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

**Luke 2:7** 

Our goal is to provide the 2,530 children in our care with Christmas gifts and help ensure that they know they are loved.

Please join us in brightening a child's Christmas through *Project Room at the Inn*!



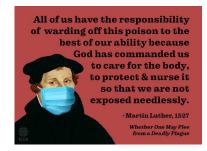
We invite your church to learn more about this program at <a href="https://www.lssi.org/Christmas">www.lssi.org/Christmas</a>

#### 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.

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.