



Immanuel
Lutheran
of Evanston



"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.

March 2022 Newsletter

Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

Many people decide to give something up for Lent as a spiritual practice of fasting. Whatever we decide to fast from doesn't matter as much as what we do whenever



we crave that thing we're fasting from. The purpose of fasting is to help us pay closer attention to what we crave and then turning all our desire towards the one who is our all in all, who has created us, and provides for all our needs. The word Lent comes from an Old English word that means lengthen. The 40 days of Lent in the northern hemisphere happen as the days are getting longer. Lent is a season of repentance, that is a turning of our hearts towards God in preparation for the celebration of Easter. It's a time for us to grow in faith and be renewed in spirit. So

maybe the more important question than 'what are you giving up for Lent?' is 'what are you taking up for Lent?' What kind of spiritual disciplines might help us be more attentive to God's presence in our lives?

You may decide to attend our Wednesday midweek worships, which focus on the theme: **Open My Life, Lord** (See full schedule later in this newsletter). You might decide to journal at the end of each day jotting down where you sensed God showing up that day, which will open your awareness of life's sacred moments. Or perhaps you're up for something more eccentric.

You've undoubtedly heard of March Madness, the NCAA basketball tournament, but do you know about Lent Madness? It's a 32-person bracket for Lent in which people vote for saints of the church. To participate you must learn about the 2 saints that are going head-to-head that day, and then vote for your favorite. It starts on the Thursday after Ash Wednesday, March 3rd, and happens on weekdays during Lent until someone wins the Golden Halo on the Wednesday of Holy Week. We can be inspired in our own lives of faith as we learn about the faithful who have gone before us. Here's the 2022 bracket: <https://www.lentmadness.org/bracket/> You can sign-up there for their email list which will cue you each day to participate. My Halo pick this year is Teresa of Avila.

Perhaps you'll think of something else to do. I once received a note of affirmation from one of my parishioners, who made sending out notes of affirmation and gratitude a daily Lenten discipline. Maybe you'll commit to reading Scripture or you'll pick a book to assist you in your spiritual growth. Maybe you'll decide to perform a daily act of kindness. Whatever you decide, I pray that it will assist you in turning towards God and following God's ways of love. For that is what the season of Lent is all about, dying and rising, and turning back to God.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Mark



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Immanuel Events

Mar. 1		Women's History Month
Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	7:00 pm	Tuesday Adult Bible Study on Zoom
Mar. 2		Ash Wednesday—Lent Begins
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
Mar. 3	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
Mar. 5, 19	8:00 am	Indoor Farmers' Market
Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27	9:00 am	Feeding One's Faith Adult Study
Mar. 13		Daylight Saving Time Begins (Spring Clocks Ahead 1 hour)
Mar. 17		Happy St. Patrick's Day
Mar. 20	12:30 pm	Council Meeting



March Scripture Readings

March 2, Ash Wednesday

Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 6, Lent 1

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

March 13, Lent 2

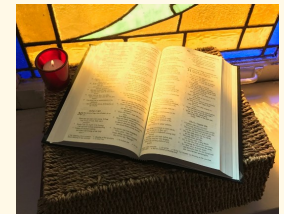
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:13—4:1
Luke 13:31-35

March 20, Lent 3

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

March 27, Lent 4

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



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

Feeding One's Faith – Sundays 9 AM—10 AM

March 2022 Schedule

Join us for studies about faith. Gatherings include viewing short videos and book discussions. Check the weekly *Immanuel Newsfeeds* or visit the website calendar for Zoom info.

March 6 – Father Greg Boyles, founder of Homeboy Industries, a gang intervention ministry in LA. Part 2.

March 13 – Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes TheoEd talk: *Pathological Whiteness*. Dr. Walker-Barnes is a clinical psychologist, public theologian, and ecumenical minister whose work focuses upon healing the legacies of racial and gender oppression.

March 20 – April 3 – The History of the Christ (3 sessions) – Father Richard Rohr

Music at Immanuel

March Music

Ash Wednesday will kick off our March Music with a lovely haunting Lenten motet by Thomas Tallis called "Purge Me, O Lord." For the first Sunday of Lent, the choir will offer a familiar hymn tune setting of "Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" arranged by Terry Kirkland.

Lent continues with a gorgeous setting of the John Newton text "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" with music by Vernon Hoyle. We then worship with a setting of the Psalm text by Claude Goudimel called "As the Deer, for Water yearning." The choir concludes the month with a rousing setting of "Precious Lord" by Thomas Dorsey (a Chicago native) set by Jack Schrader.

—Jimmy Morehead

Midweek Lenten Worships

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm —7:30 pm

Please join us in worship either in person or via Zoom for a time of reflection and awareness of God's sacred presence in our lives. Please visit the website www.immanuelevanston.org for the Zoom link.

March 9 - Open My Eyes, Lord

Paul saw the light of Christ shining around him on the road to Damascus.

As individuals and communities, what do we have difficulty seeing? How does our perspective change when we view the world through the eyes of Christ?

March 16 - Open My Hands, Lord

We use our hands to pick up a child, to serve a meal, to play an instrument, to wipe away a tear. Jesus used his hands for healing and for deeds of great power, and the psalmist reminds us that we are always held fast in God's hands. In Deuteronomy, Moses encourages us to open our hands in service to others.

March 23 - Open My Ears, Lord

Ancient Greek philosophy notes that we have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak. Jesus reminds us that we sometimes hear but don't listen, listen but don't understand. Opening our ears isn't as easy as it sounds.

March 30 - Open My Heart, Lord

Listening to Paul's teaching, Lydia opened her heart to God and was baptized. Her willing, trusting faith echoes down through the centuries as we witness her "open heart procedure."

April 6 - Open My Life, Lord

Moses presents us with a choice: death and adversity, or a life cracked open to the love of God. Writing to the Galatians, Paul tells us that we have died to the law so that we might live to God. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us.



From the Council President...

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19

This verse from Isaiah has been on my mind for the past few months. If I were asked to describe myself, the word "leader" would not be the first thought that comes to my mind. Yet, within a few days of each other, I was asked to consider my interest in two leadership roles, one at my job and one at Immanuel. I found myself asking: what new thing is God doing in my life this year?

With a mix of apprehension and excitement, I have said yes to both positions. I have stepped into a new role at work, and I am honored to have been selected as the president of the Congregational Council at Immanuel. As we plan for the future of ministries of Immanuel, while also continuing to navigate the ever-changing pandemic, I invite you to consider with me: what new thing is God doing at Immanuel this year?

Please feel free to contact me at president@immanuelevanston.org.

Blessings,

Dana Barron

Farewell & Godspeed to Scott and Fran...

On February 6th, we bid farewell and Godspeed to Scott Romans and Fran Bushhammer before they departed to their new home in sunny New Mexico. Pr. Mark gave this blessing:

*Eternal God, we thank you for Scott and Fran
and for the time we have shared with them.*

*As they have been a blessing to us,
so now send them forth to be a blessing to others;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*



Among other roles, Scott served as Council President when the pandemic began in 2020 as well as during the search for a new pastor. Fran coordinated some building and infrastructure repairs and was seen supervising contractors and quietly delivering supplies during the weekdays. We thank Scott and Fran for their immense generosity and giving of their time and talent wherever the church had a need. And with cheery dispositions and a sense of humor above all else! Don't be strangers, Scott and Fran! We look forward to when our paths cross again!

2022-23 ILC Leadership

Dana Barron, Congregation President

Bert Mount, Congregation Vice President

Steve Warner, Congregation Secretary

Susan Ross, Treasurer

Melisa Larson, Diane Keely, Michael Kloster, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff Congregation Council Members

Mary Ann Kearns, Financial Secretary

Elizabeth Stegner, Assistant Financial Secretary

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Sara Mauk 3/3

Amy Shearer 3/8

Anne Heider 3/10

Terri Hummel 3/13

Charly Yarnoff 3/13

Kevin McDaniel 3/17

Dan McCarthy 3/21

Bert Mount 3/26


So Many Ways to Serve

There are so many ways that we help Immanuel keep going. You probably noticed the many committees that filed reports for the Annual Meeting and any of these committees would welcome new members.

I am especially wondering if you are interested in becoming an integral part of Sunday worship? There are many ways you can do this.

- **Coffee Hour is resuming and we're looking for hosts!** After Sunday worship, hosts prepare and serve beverages and light snacks for this time of warm fellowship, whose return has been long-awaited!
- The Altar Guild makes sure that the appropriate colors for each season in the church calendar are displayed, and also that the table is set for communion each Sunday.
- Assisting ministers participate in the service with Pastor Mark.
- Lectors (or readers) read the Scripture passages from the pulpit.
- Acolytes (though not currently, but in future surely) process with the cross and with torches, light altar and pulpit candles and extinguish them when the service concludes.
- Ushers assist in many ways during the Sunday service.

If any of these sound interesting to you, please contact me, Kit McCarthy, at kit.mccarthy@comcast.net, or, call the church at (847) 864-4464 and let Jane or Pastor Mark know.




Immanuel's Indoor Farmers Markets

Immanuel Lutheran Church presents Farmers Markets for winter & spring 2021-22.

November 20
December 4 & 18
January 8 & 22
February 5 & 19
March 5 & 19
April 2

Time: 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Masks required inside the building

 Evanston's Community Indoor Farmers Market

www.immanuelevanston.org

Tuesday Midweek Adult Bible Study on Zoom
7 pm on Zoom

Our simple mid-week gathering on 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.



Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.



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.

When leaving the building, please practice good stewardship by turning off all lights, dumping trash properly, and making sure doors are locked and secure.



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.