



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.

God's Hands - December 2022

Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

During our 'Feeding Our Faith' Sunday morning conversations this fall, we've learned more about our Christian call to be involved in the work of reparations. We learned about the Biblical basis for reparations, some history of reparations, and how it's about much more than money. It's about repairing relationships, righting past wrongs in ways that bring wholeness and healing. It can take many forms, and we've learned the importance of giving freedom to discern how best to utilize reparations funds to those who are receiving them. This helps break the imbalance of power that made reparations necessary in the first place.



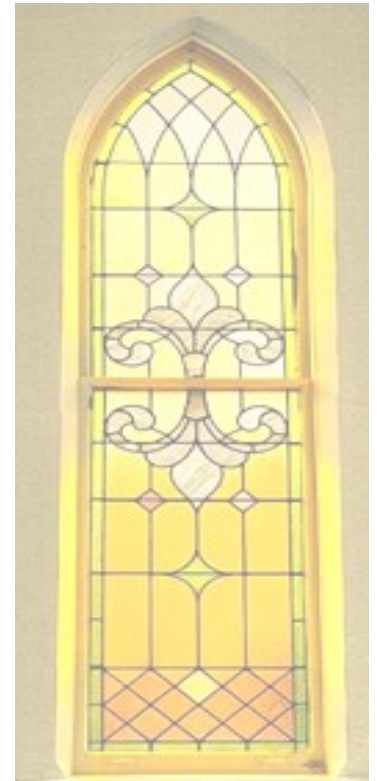
During this Advent and Christmas season, I invite you to join me in discerning how you might contribute to our congregation's interfaith commitment to support the Evanston Community Reparations Fund. This can be a wonderful way to respond to the good news of God's coming to us in Christ Jesus to heal and repair this broken world.

I know that some of you have already contributed, and for that I'm both inspired and grateful. Our total contribution will be added to the other faith communities participating and made public in an event near the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

In the Matthean Christmas story, Jesus and the holy family flee to Egypt to escape a tyrannical jealous leader's infanticide. It's a story of Jesus being the refugee. And it connects him to another story of God's liberating his people from their slavery in Egypt. As we enter this Advent season and ready our hearts and lives to celebrate God's liberating presence in our world through Christ Jesus, our Lord, may we be freed to live more generously in how we love and welcome our neighbors. May we be open to God's ways of justice flowing through both our voices and our actions. And may our spirits be ever more open to receiving God's endless outpouring of love. For at the very heart of what we celebrate each Christmas is how God's love became human.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Mark



Inside this issue

- Christmas Services
- December Music
- Organ Scholar Student Concert
- Recent Events
- Gift-giving Ideas
- Adopt-a-Gift Program

Immanuel Calendar



Dec. 1	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
Dec. 3, 17	8:00 am	Indoor Farmers' Market
Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27	7:00 pm	Midweek Adult Bible Study (on Zoom)
Dec. 7, 14 21	7:00 pm	Midweek Advent Prayers
Dec. 15	7:00 pm	Group Spiritual Direction
Dec. 17	7:00 pm	Organ Scholar Concert—Katherine Jollitt
Dec. 18	1:00 pm	Council Meeting
Dec. 21	10:00 am	Group Spiritual Direction
Dec. 24	9:00 pm	Christmas Eve—Nativity of Our Lord Worship
Dec. 25	10:30 am	Christmas Day Worship

Be sure to check the Church Calendar online at www.immanuelevanston.org/Calendar for the latest info on church events and building usage.

December Scripture Readings

December 4, Advent 2

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

December 11, Advent 3

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

December 18, Advent 4

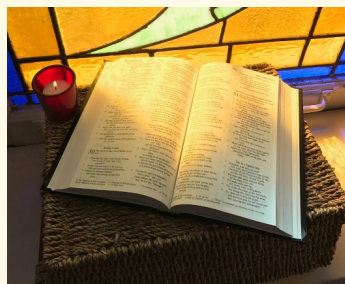
Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24, Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

December 25, Christmas

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20



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

Feeding Our Faith

Sundays 9 AM—10 AM

Gatherings include viewing short videos and lively discussions.

You can participate either in-person or via Zoom. All participants will have an enhanced experience by being able to see and hear each other, via an Owl Labs 360-degree view video camera/speaker/microphone! Zoom link is on the church website, www.immanuelevanston.org.

December 11 & 18 Jim Wallis & Ken Medema at Wild Goose 2022

Jim Wallis is a globally respected writer, teacher, preacher, and justice advocate who believes the gospel of Jesus must be transformed from its cultural and political captivities. He is a New York Times bestselling author, widely recognized public theologian, renowned speaker, and regular international commentator on ethics and public life. Ken Medema has shared his passion for learning and discovery through storytelling and music with an ever-growing circle of followers around the world. Ken has been performing for almost 50 years in many different venues: churches, conventions, colleges, corporations and more for groups ranging from 50 to 50,000 people.

December Music

December continues our Advent preparations for the celebration of Christmas. The choir will sing a rousing setting of an Isaiah text for the second Sunday of Advent called "Where Once There Lay Dragons" by Kenton Coe.

We anxiously await the coming of Christ on Advent 3 with Andre Thomas's arrangement of the Spiritual "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning." We round out the fourth Sunday of Advent with a lovely traditional arrangement of "Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine" by Normon Luboff.

On Christmas Eve, we will be joined by our faithful soprano Ashlee Hardgrave for "O Holy Night" and the choir will offer in worship a setting of John 1 called "The Glory of the Father" by Egil Hovland and a rousing setting of the French carol "He Is Born" by Mark Hayes.



The Christmas Season at Immanuel



Special Advent Prayer Services on Wednesdays

December 7, 14, 21, 2022 (in-person & on Zoom)

Worship begins at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays, which will include a time of silence together following a Scripture reading.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2022; 9:00 pm

Come rejoice in the birth of the Baby Jesus. God's promise of peace to all.

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022, 10:30 am

O Morning Star!



Organ Scholar Concert

Saturday, December 17, 2022, 7:00 pm

We celebrate another Organ Scholar Award recipient, Katherine Jollitt, who will perform in the sanctuary on Saturday, December 17th at 7:00 pm. Katherine is the Undergraduate Scholar Awardee for 2022. After her concert, the award will be presented and a champagne reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.



Katherine Jolliff is a young organist from Indianapolis, Indiana. She began piano studies at the age of 5 and started learning the organ in her freshman year of high school from Marco Petricic (UIndy). After completing her first two years of high school, she finished her studies at Interlochen Arts Academy. She majored in both piano performance and organ performance and studied organ with Tom Bara. Graduating with honors and the Fine Arts Award in Organ Performance, Katherine is currently attending Eastman School of Music as an organ performance major. In addition to being declared a winner at the Regional Competition for Young Organists competition, she has also won first prize in the East Carolina University Young Artists Competition in organ performance (including the Bach Interpretation Prize and the Hymn Playing Award) as well as first place in the 2021 M. Louise Miller and Paul E Knox Scholarship Competition. Most recently, she won first place in the Immanuel Lutheran Organ Scholar Competition and the Taylor Organ Competition.

Rite of Holy Baptism—Emmett C. Hanson

On Sunday, November 20, 2022, we celebrated the Rite of Holy Baptism for Emmett Charles Hanson, son of Grace Yarnoff and Alex Hanson and little brother of Logan. Proud grandparents are Chris Djuric and Charly Yarnoff and sponsors are Catie Profaci and Kevin Taylor. Welcome, Baby Emmett to the Immanuel Community!



Photos by Joe Simchak


The Community is in the House! In November, the church building was once again the site of special events.

Rubik's Cube Competition

On Sunday, November 13, 2022, Immanuel hosted its first-ever Rubik's Cube Youth Tourney. The friendly event was hosted by the Klosters and a good time was had by all!



Rubik's Cube
Competition!
Sun, Nov 13 2:30pm
Judges needed too!



Just for fun!
Location: Immanuel Lutheran Church
616 Lake Street, Evanston
Contact Michael at 630.217.1570 for details

**DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

David Johnson 12/1
Laurie Stivers 12/4
Stephen Warner 12/7
Alfhild Wikstrom 12/4
Laura McDaniel 12/9
Nicholas Senn 12/11
Alexander Ross 12/17
Zachariah Yarnoff 12/24
Kerstin Litwin 12/29



Evanston Go Club Fall Tournament

Immanuel was the site of Evanston Go Club's wildly successful Fall 2022 Tournament. "Go" is an ancient Japanese board game which resembles chess. The Evanston Go Club has hosted its Spring and Fall Tournaments at Immanuel for more than 10 years. Interest has grown in playing Go to include Beginners and Youth sessions, coaching and "lessons learned" seminars given by veterans and champion players.





Christmas 2022

Adopt-a-Gift for Henry Booth House Head Start

For those seeking opportunities to practice generosity during Advent, Lisa Larson invites you to join in providing Christmas gifts for children & families enrolled in the Henry Booth House Head Start programs at the Near South Preschool Academy located in Chicago’s Douglas/Bronzeville community, and the Hegewisch Head Start Center, located in Chicago’s Hegewisch community.

Head Start programs provide early education and family support services to children 0 – 5 years old in greatest need, and welcomes all cultures, languages, orientations & abilities.

Gifts (\$30 minimum) need to be wrapped and delivered to Immanuel or to Lisa by Sunday, December 11th. You can shop on your own or provide a monetary donation. Please contact Lisa with questions or to receive the name of a child, sibling group or family (mlarson153@att.net; 847 – 951- 5647).



Poinsettias - For Christmas

As is tradition at Immanuel, we are planning to have poinsettias adorn the sanctuary for Christmas Eve and Christmas. If you are interested in ordering Poinsettias, please complete the information below.

A six-inch pot will cost \$20

Name: _____

Number of poinsettias: _____ X \$20 = \$_____ enclosed

Please indicate for bulletin:

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In memory of _____

_____ Other _____

Please place the completed slip along with a check made payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church in the offering plate or drop off in Church office.

Orders are due by Sunday, December 11, 2022

An Idea for Christmas Gift Giving



ELCA's Good Gifts program is a great way to express your love during the Christmas season to those far-flung relatives who don't really need yet another sweater or sweet treat or stuffed animal.

That great-aunt of yours would be touched knowing that you've donated money in her name for a community vegetable garden in Zimbabwe. Your niece and nephew would get a kick out of the idea that they're providing a flock of chicks to a family in Senegal. That college friend would love to know that they're helping a group of children with school supplies for their classroom in Brazil.

In Second Corinthians, we're told that "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

Consider sharing your abundance by going to the [ELCA Good Gifts website](#) or picking up the catalog outside Fellowship Hall.

Yours in Christ,

Chris Djuric and Charly Yarnoff



Tuesday Midweek Adult Bible Study on Zoom

7:00 pm

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 info and the week's themes.

SANKTA LUCIA SERVICE

A Swedish festival of light
in both Swedish & English



**Sunday, December 11th
7pm**

**Trinity Lutheran Church
3637 Golf Road
Evanston, IL 60203
847-673-8564
www.trinityevanston.org**

Music by

NORDIC VOICES of CHICAGO

STORY AND CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT

LUCIA'S COURT and TOMTE NISSE (ELVES)

SCANDINAVIAN TREATS AVAILABLE AS YOU DEPART

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.

If you'd like to use a space, first please check the church calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org or contact the church office at 847-864-4464 or parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org for availability.

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

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



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.