

God's Hands—November 2023

Some Food for Thought from the Pastor

The beauty and preciousness of life is intimately linked with its fragility and mortality. As our liturgical year draws to a close our biblical texts in worship will assist us in the contemplation of our own mortality and the last days. We do so not with a sense of despair, but with the kind of hope that Emily Dickenson describes, "Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all." As tragedy, war, and violence rock our world we will hear a note of sorrow in hope's song. However, at the heart of that song for all who belong to Christ is resurrection. It informs how we envision and face the last days for Christ love is stronger than death. Resurrection hope empowers us to join our voices in singing.

Poet pastor Steve Garnas-Holmes makes a similar assertion in a recent poem he posted online titled, *The End of the World*:

At the end of the world
the power-wielders will send their messages
and the generals will give their commands
and the officers will push their buttons
and death will fall like rain...

or maybe the billionaires will make their money
and the entrepreneurs will manufacture their goods
and the factories will spew their poisons
and the clouds will descend...

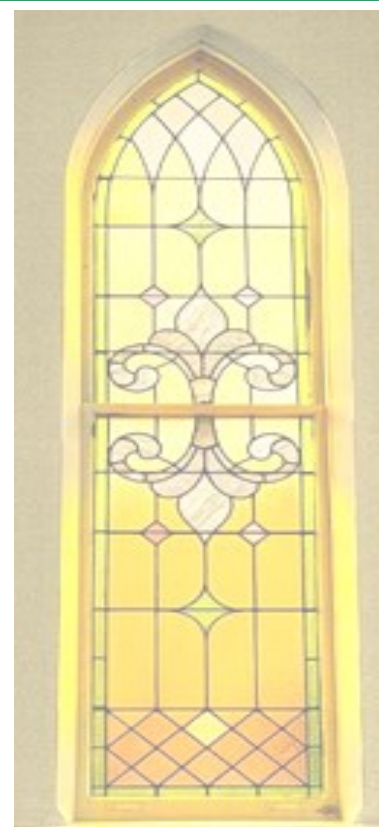
or maybe the demagogues will suggest
and the pundits will assert
and the people will believe
and the massacres will commence...

but somewhere people will gather—many—
different ages, languages, religions,
and they will sing together
and the world will not end.

Our songs of hope can change hearts and minds beginning with our own. We are God's living messages of hope for this broken world. Each ending can be a new beginning. We proclaim this mystery by saying Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. This gift of faith is the bird with feathers that perches in our souls. I invite you to join in singing the song.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Mark



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Immanuel Calendar



Nov. 1		First Day of National American Indian Heritage Month
Nov. 2, 16	9:00 am	Daytime Quilters
Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30	7:30 pm	Wilmette Band Rehearsals
Nov. 2	7:30 pm	Worship & Music Meeting
Nov. 4	all day	Evanston Go Club Tournament
Nov. 5	10:30 am	All Saints Sunday—DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28	Noon	Midweek Spiritual Discussion on Zoom
Nov. 11, 25	10:00 am	Trombone Choir Rehearsal
Nov. 11	3:00 pm	Organ Scholar Recital—JoEllen West, (Veterans Day)
Nov. 15	10:00 am	Group Spiritual Direction
Nov. 16	7:00 pm	Group Spiritual Direction
Nov. 18	8:00 am	First Indoor Farmers Market of 2023-24
Nov. 19	12:00 pm	Council Meeting
Nov. 23		Happy Thanksgiving! (Church office closed)
Nov. 24		Native American Heritage Day
Nov. 26	10:30 am	Christ the King Sunday

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

November Scripture Readings

November 5, All Saints Sunday

Revelation 7:9-17
 Psalm 34:1-10, 22
 1 John 3:1-3
 Matthew 5:1-12

November 12, Pentecost 24

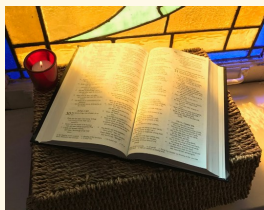
Amos 5:18-24
 Psalm 70
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Matthew 25:1-13

November 22, Pentecost 25

Zepharia 1:7, 12-18
 Psalm 90:1-8 {9-11} 12
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Matthew 25:14-30

November 26, Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:1-16, 20-24
 Psalm 95:1-7a
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Matthew 25:31-46



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

Music at Immanuel

November Music

After a lovely joint Reformation service, we greet the final month of our church year. All Saints Sunday will have brass quartet for the service as well as Izawa Nobuaki's "Lux Aeterna" as well as Betty Jackson King's "I want God's Heaven." As the end of the year looks towards the end times, we follow up with Andre Crouch's "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning." The choir then offers Robert J. Powell's "With Your Lives Adore Him." And we finish the month with J. S. Bach's famous "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" in German with organ, which he composed for Christ the King Sunday.

—Jimmy Morehead

Feeding Our Faith

Sundays 9 AM—10 AM

November Topics

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.

Through November 5 – Book Study – “Second Thoughts on the Second Coming”, by Ronald J. Allen & Robert D. Cornwall. Inquiring minds want to better understand what the future holds, or at least how we might approach the future. Will Jesus come in the clouds? Will there be a great nuclear holocaust? Or will things continue on without an end? In other words, what are God's ultimate purposes?

November 12 – Making A Land Acknowledgement – discussion of a recent article in *The Christian Century*, *My Land Acknowledgment: My family owns a residential plot in suburban Chicago. I decided to find out what used to be there*, by Ben Norquist, a researcher for Churches for Middle East Peace, Wheaton College, and independent scholars. Visit our website, What's Going On tab\Spiritual Growth Opportunities\Feeding Our Faith to find a pdf of this article.

November 19 – Brian McClaren – Faith After Fundamentalism – Through reflections on his own fundamentalist upbringing and faith journey, Brian McLaren encourages listeners to continue growing in their faith in a way that allows them to embrace where they have come from and be gentle with their past selves.

November 26 – Otis Moss III, By Any Green Necessary – In this passionate talk, Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III presents innovative, inclusive, and environmentally conscious ways the church can partner with God in bringing about community transformation.

2023–24 ILC Leadership

Dana Barron, Congregation President

Michael Kloster, Congregation Vice President

Steve Warner, Congregation Secretary

Susan Ross, Treasurer

Diane Keely, Jerry Larson, Kit McCarthy, Terri Simchak,
Grace Yarnoff Congregation Council Members

Laurie Stivers, Financial Secretary

Hybrid Tuesday Midweek Adult Bible Study

Noon—1:00 pm

Our simple mid-week gathering on Tuesdays now at the Lunch Hour in Fellowship Hall. Brown bag lunchers are welcome. 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.

ORGAN SCHOLAR RECITAL

Kelsey Berg



2023 ORGAN SCHOLAR GRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023

3:00 pm in-person or online

*(Click the **What's Going On** tab on our website)*



**Immanuel
Lutheran**
of Evanston

www.immanuelcevanston.org



**616 Lake Street
Evanston, IL 60201**

Free Admission, Reception to Follow

Organ Scholar Concert

Saturday, November 11, 2023, 3:00 pm

Immanuel Sanctuary

Please join us for our second concert in the 2023 Organ Scholar Concert series, this performance given by Kelsey Berg, the 2023 Graduate Award recipient. The concert will begin at 3:00 pm. Following Ms. Berg's performance, the award will be presented and will be followed by a champagne reception to be held in Fellowship Hall. Please invite your family and friends to one of our favorite church events. Admission is free.



About the Award Recipient



Kelsey M. Berg serves as the Assistant Organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, OH and is a doctoral candidate in Organ Performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), studying with Professor Todd Wilson, where she is the 2023 recipient of the Heinrich Scholarship in Organ. At CIM, she teaches secondary organ lessons to both graduate and undergraduate students.

Kelsey also teaches organ lessons for primary and secondary students, as well as music theory for non-majors at Case Western Reserve University. She maintains a private piano and organ studio, with students of all levels. Prior to attending CIM, Kelsey received both a Master of Music in Organ Performance and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Mercer University.

She also attended Salem College, receiving both a Certificate in Injury Preventive Keyboard Technique and a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy with an Emphasis in Injury Preventive Keyboard Technique. At Salem, Kelsey was awarded the Bright and Annie Lee Fitzgerald Sink Award for Excellence in Piano. She has studied organ with Dr. Jack Mitchener and Dr. John Cummins, and has studied piano with Dr. Ian Altman and Dr. Barbara Lister-Sink. Kelsey is a member of the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Society of Women Organists, and is Registrar of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



News from Tyler...

We heard from Tyler Heyl the other day, who is settling nicely at his new job in Midland, Michigan, at Dow Chemical. Tyler graduated this past June with his PhD in Chemical Engineering and sent a copy of his dissertation, *Morphological Characterization and Microstructure Formation in Interpenetrating Polymer Networks*. In his Acknowledgements, Tyler writes...

"I would also like to thank all the organizations I participated in outside of research. First, I want to thank the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministries for their community, the support they gave me, and for always being a welcoming place....."

Thank YOU, Tyler, for all of your support and work with our various ministries! We wish you all the best in your new job and home and Michigan, and don't be a stranger to Immanuel and Evanston!

A copy of Tyler's dissertation is available in the church office.



Photo by The Wang Lab, Northwestern University



INDOOR FARMERS MARKET RESUMES

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 18, 2023, which is the Inaugural Indoor Farmers Market of the 2023-24 season! The day also marks the IFM under new leadership of the IFM Task Force.

All are invited to serve on this ministry in many different ways—as Greeters, helping with set-up/clean-up, advocacy tables, and more, so tell your family and friends to join us. We'd love to hear your ideas of how IFM can serve our greater community even further.

See you on the 18th!

—Michael Kloster, Grace Yarnoff, Kit McCarthy

The Indoor Farmers Market 2023-24 Season

Market is open 8 AM – 12:30 PM on the following Saturdays

November 18, 2023

December 2, December 16

January 6, January 20

February 3, February 17

March 2, March 16

Upcoming Women's Book Club Gathering—Final for 2023

Several women from Immanuel get together monthly for a book discussion and fellowship. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, rotating among the homes of our members.

The November book is *The Personal Librarian* by Maria Benedict. The meeting will be at **7:30 pm on November 30th** (fifth Thursday, because the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving Day) at the home of Laurie Stivers. Please contact the church office for Laurie's address. There will be no gathering in December. Gatherings will resume on Thursday, January 25, 2024.

NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Logan Hanson 11/1

Dana Barron 11/4

Edward Carlson 11/11

Christine Imhoff 11/12

Jared Peck 11/18

Peter Moy 11/21

Calvin Nellis 11/25

Scott Romans 11/29

Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service

Twenty-fifth annual

Wednesday, November 22, 2023 7:00pm

The Unitarian Church of Evanston

1330 Ridge Ave, Evanston

Keynote Speaker

Gloria Bond Clunie

Playwright, Director, Educator and Founder
of Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre

Interfaith Community Choir

Led by Vickie Hellyer

Music Director

Unitarian Church of Evanston

To join the choir meet in the UCE sanctuary at 5:30pm that
evening for rehearsal and snacks.

Email vhellyer@ucevanston.org

Sponsored by

Interfaith Action of Evanston

847 475-1150

ia@interfaithactionofevanston.org

www.interfaithactionofevanston.org

Attendees are expected to be vaccinated; masking is optional.

Service will also be available via live stream

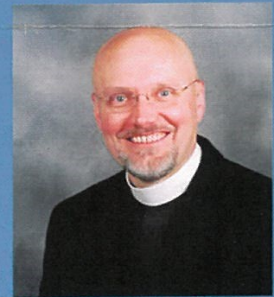
www.youtube.com/c/UnitarianChurchofEvanston

An Invitation for Your Congregation: Join LSTC's Learning Communities 2023-2024!

The LSTC Learning Communities offer no-cost spring and fall theological education programs via Zoom designed to enhance lay theological education, enrich parish learning programs, and foster a stronger relationship between the seminary and its constituent congregations. In the 2023-2024 year, we have three exciting programs on offer. We would love to have you and interested members of your congregation join us!

OCTOBER 8 - FAITH, WORK, AND ECONOMICS

Embark on a remarkable 4-part series exploring "Faith, Work, and Economics" led by Rev. Wayne N. Miller, Bishop Emeritus. Choose between Sunday sessions starting **October 8** or Wednesday sessions starting **October 11**. Discover the interplay between faith and work, and gain insights into living a fulfilling life.



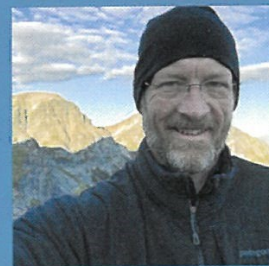
JANUARY 7 - THEOLOGICAL INTERSECTIONALITY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY CHURCH

Engage in a thought-provoking 4-part series on intersectionality with LSTC's Dr. Linda E. Thomas. Delve into the intersections of race, class, gender, and more, and explore anti-oppressionist approaches to theology and parish life. Sunday sessions begin **January 7**, and Wednesday sessions begin **January 10**.



APRIL 7 - LITURGY AND THE NATURAL WORLD

Join LSTC faculty member Rev. Dr. Benjamin M. Stewart for an inspiring 4-part series on nature and liturgy. Reimagine communal liturgies and daily rituals as you explore the sacredness of the cosmos, sacraments, and our bodies. Sunday sessions begin **April 7**, and Wednesday sessions begin **April 10**.



Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago

CALLED INTO THE WORLD

Register at
www.lstc.edu/events
or scan the code



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**.



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.