

The Advance

The Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rooted in Christ and Growing

The Rev. Janet S. Peterman, Interim Pastor

1013 Cottman Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19111-3658

Phone:215.342.8203

Sunday Worship:10:00 AM

Sunday School:10:00 AM

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

At a recent transition workshop, a couple of people asked what our benevolence monies are used for when they go to the wider church. I wanted to address that question.

First, let me go back to basics for those who might be new to Immanuel and to the Lutheran Church. Though Immanuel hasn't often felt the connections to the wider church, and has often been proud of its **congregational** identity, apart from the wider church, Lutherans are by their nature interconnected with other Lutherans. Immanuel is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA. The ELCA is composed of 65 synods, or regions of the church. Our synod is the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (SEPA). If you are interested to find out more about these ministries, both have informative websites: elca.org and ministrylink.org Internationally, the ELCA is a member organization of Lutheran World Federation (www.lutheranworld.org)

The word *benevolence* means “a disposition to do good, an act of kindness, or a generous gift.” I like to think of offerings to the wider church as many smaller gifts joined together to make larger ministries possible in ways that any single person, or even a single congregation, for that matter, would likely not be able to do on their own. As Lutherans, we have always been part of a Church bigger than ourselves. For this Advance, I wanted to explain something about the synod's budget and spending priorities.

In 2010, Immanuel sent \$10,000 to our synod for regular benevolence. This represents monies that individuals and families ***have designated for sending as benevolence offerings to the synod and the ELCA.***

Before I get into the synod's budget, first a little background. SEPA Synod's fiscal year and budget run from July 1-June 30 each year. Budgets are passed each year at the synod's gathering of pastors and other rostered leaders, with lay voting members from each congregation, which is called a synod assembly. At Immanuel, like in most Lutheran congregations, Council officers and/or the Council itself, chooses who will represent the congregation at the assembly each year. In early May this year, Immanuel was represented by Joe Schroeck and Janice Reiff, President and Vice President of the congregation, and myself. In addition, because our synod is trying to cultivate the leadership of young adults at the assembly and in the church, Immanuel, like other congregations in the synod, was invited to send an additional voting member (and scholarship monies were available to cover the costs for the additional member). Vanessa Brennan also represented Immanuel at the assembly this year.

Like congregations and communities across the nation, our synod is experiencing trying economic times. A special task force of the Synod Council was appointed last year to address the finances of the synod, and worked hard through the year to consider various options. Though no one is pleased that receipts to the synod are down, reflecting reduced offerings in many congregations, this is where we stand for the foreseeable future. The task force therefore recommended that the synod adopt a balanced budget, which the assembly did. They developed spending priorities; cuts and reductions in staff were necessary to meet that goal.

That may be more background than you wanted! But I think it helps you to understand the thoughtful way that leaders from across the Lutheran Church in our area invest in ministries of the wider church, with the hope that together they may further the ministry of Jesus Christ on our shared turf in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Incidentally, committees

of the synod, like committees in congregations, are filled with volunteers.

The FY 2012 general fund operating budget, beginning July 1 totals \$2.54 million. On the income side, 90% comes from congregations; 4% from unrestricted bequests, fundraising and other gifts; 3.1% from other unrestricted income; and 2.9% from administrative income related to property sales.

For every benevolence dollar received from congregations and individuals, 53.5% is passed through the synod to the wider church, to the ELCA. The ELCA portion is 48.3% of the total budget. Here are the synod's spending priorities:

1. **48.3% to the ELCA for denomination wide ministries** (I'll write more about the ELCA budget and priorities in the next Advance.)
2. **25.7% Equipping congregations and leaders:** New missions; congregational grants; candidacy (people entering the ministry); pastoral support; youth ministry; communications; global mission; special events
3. **19.9% Administrative:** Administrative Staff salaries; benefits; synod office expenses
4. **6.1% Agencies:** LTSP (the seminary); Muhlenberg College; campus ministry; Bear Creek Camp

Should you like to see more detail about the synod's budget, speak with me or with one of the voting members from this year's assembly. Assembly materials included a full budget with all the detail.

Blessings to you this summer in whatever ways you will find refreshment and renewal.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Janet S. Peterman
Interim Pastor



PRAISE GOD FOR CHOIR MEMBERS

Our choir year ends the end of May and it is again time to offer our sincerest thanks to all who have participated in singing and playing bells. They are faithful, friendly, fun, and a real pleasure to work with. Our group is small In number, but as I always say, big in heart and voice. Without these loyal members, Immanuel would have no choir.

Our wonderful choir members deserve a great big thank you from all of us..

We hope they have a pleasant, relaxing summer, and come back in the fall refreshed and ready to go. May God bless them and keep them all in His most tender loving care.

As you know, I will be moving to North Carolina soon, living in a 55+ community, 15 minutes away from my son, daughter-in-law and 3 little grandson. I'm excitedly looking forward to doing a lot of baby sitting and happy about being near my family, but I will miss my Immanuel family. Many choir members have made my job such a pleasant one. They and you, the members of Immanuel, have also been like family to me, offering prayers, help, and support when I needed it. My twenty-two years at Immanuel have been among the best years of my life and my choir members among my best friends.

I congratulate you upon your 100th anniversary. May Immanuel be here serving God in this place for many years to come. I wish you all the very best, as individuals and as a congregation.

To my choir members – you are all so special to me. I will never forget you. thanks for all the good times and the good music. I love you all!

***“May the road, May it rise to Meet you.
May the wind be al ways at your back.
May the rain, may it softly fall,
Upon youR fiel ds.
And mAy God hold you in the pAlm of his
hand.”***

Transition News

The Transition Leadership Team has hosted two transition workshops as they move toward preparing the Ministry Site Profile, a self-study document that will be revised and adopted by the Council, and that will serve as the congregation's "resume" when Immanuel begins the call process. I wanted to take this opportunity to give some background to the theological conversations that were part of the workshop on May 15th, especially for those who were not at that workshop, and to give you dates for the remaining transition workshops.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the ELCA for short, is our denomination. Among much other business, and as part of a long-running study by the ELCA on human sexuality, the 2009 ELCA Assembly included a decision to allow partnered gay or lesbian Christians to serve as Lutheran pastors for those congregations who wanted to call them.

These questions feel especially troubling for congregations in transition across the synod and ELCA, because many worry about what kind of candidates the congregation will be given. Let me assure you that from where I sit, there is widespread support for Immanuel stating clearly that the congregation does not want a partnered gay or lesbian pastor, that Immanuel wants a traditional Lutheran pastor. This will be written into the Profile strongly and clearly. (Our synod respects congregations' beliefs on this issue.)

Although many at Immanuel had not heard about this ELCA decision and feel distant from the workings of the ELCA, some have been quite distressed by the decision, and by other concerns about the ELCA. The workshop in May 15th offered two presenters, from two different perspectives within the Lutheran church, address some basic questions about Lutheran Theology and biblical interpretation. Some present at that workshop, and the Transition Team, felt that the position of the presenter opposed to the theological directions of the ELCA was not as clearly stated as it should have been. We will therefore continue this conversation at the next workshop:

**Sunday, June 5th, immediately following worship;
over by 2:00; lunch provided.**

The workshop is designed for listening and learning. Our presenter that day will be **Pastor Mark Chavez, Director of Lutheran CORE**. He will be asked the same questions that were asked of the presenters on May 15th, but there will also be time for questions from the congregation. Some materials representing the conversation from May 15th, and from presenter Dr. Erik Heen, who spoke from within ELCA biblical teaching, will also be available on June 5th. (You are welcome to this workshop even if you were not present on May 15th.)

Additional Transition Workshop

To make this shift in the transition workshop schedule, the Transition Team needed to move the workshop they had already planned for June 5th off that date. We did not want to wait until the fall, however, to come back to it, or the process of getting to the call process would be delayed. The Transition Team believes that we need to work together as a congregation to commit to reversing the decades-long pattern at Immanuel of losing members. That will be the topic for the **4th transition workshop**, which will now be held immediately following worship on **Sunday, July 10th**. FYI: We expect this workshop to be fun, uplifting, and to lead Immanuel forward.

I know: many of you have told me that Immanuel folds up in the summer. You have urged me not to offer any workshop then. But it is our decision that it should not wait til the fall. ***We therefore appeal to you to do all that you can to be present on Sunday, July 10th, and to invite others. The workshop will finish by 2:00; lunch will be provided; we hope also to provide childcare.***

We would like 50 adults to pledge their presence for that day. Will you invest in the life of Immanuel going forward? We hope you will join us for conversation.

Interim Pastor Janet S. Peterman
For the Transition Leadership Team

COUNCIL NEWS

Our property, yes all of these two buildings belong to you. It has been difficult to obtain a Property Committee Chairman since George Benson has retired from the post – after many, many years of service and work.

I have come up with a plan to have the work broken into SUB CHAIRMEN for many of the branches of the work the committee is charged to maintain.

The items of each sub-committee would be something like this: Electrical; Sexton (Housekeeping); Kitchen: Exterior: Painting; Roofs; KIB; Plumbing; HVAC: Bus. There would also be a Coordinator of Volunteers. All of these would report back to the Committee chairman.

In this arrangement no one person would be responsible for everything.

The Chairman should probably be a member of the Church Council and have the Sub Chairmen report to this person so the council would be informed of the overall operation. The Sub Chairman would not have to do the actual work, but know whom to contact to repair the item/system, and ask for congregation members to help paint, clean, KIB, exterior, etc. There is one phase of this system already in operation. KIB (Keep Immanuel Beautiful) has been and is now in operation with Bill Bender presently the Sub chairman. Any member of the congregation, male or female, can be the sub chairman of the sub committee. Again, this is your property, now in excellent condition, and to keep it that way, your help is required. Consider this and let me know if you are willing to become part of keeping OUR PROPERTY in excellent condition.

Joe Schroeck

Our attendance so far this year has been showing an INCREASE over last year. It is only a small gain, but it has shown a trend upward. Keep up the good work and invite friends to come and welcome and greet those you know and are new to you.

The finances are holding their own. April showed a deficit, even with Palm Sunday and Easter, but this was due mostly because our insurance policy was paid. Did you know our property and contents are insured for FIVE MILLIAN DOLLARS? Another reason your help is required to keep the property in A1 condition.

100th ANNIVERSARY PHOTO DIRECTORY

Photographs of all members will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 28th and 29th from 2:00 PM until 9:30 PM in the Conference Room. You may select your time and day by signing up on the sheet in the Upper Narthex or calling the church office. Having your picture taken will give you the following:

A 100th Anniversary pictorial directory

A free 8/10 photograph

Immanuel will receive \$2.00 for each photograph taken. NO purchases are required.

A directory like this will enable you to know the name of the person you haven't met. It is also a keepsake of events during our celebration.

No picture taken – no directory.

100th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

The banquet is scheduled for Sunday, October 9, 2011, at the Cannstatters.. The choice of menu will be Roast Beef or Turkey or Salmon. The entire cost is \$27.00 and includes a keepsake of our 100th Anniversary.

ELECTED FOR 3 YEAR TERM ON CHURCH COUNCIL:

Daisy Beck, Karen Delaney, Marilyn Kowalick, Walt MacBride

CHURCH PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH NOON - ?
PAVILION ON CENTRAL AVE.
AT BURHOLME PARK.

ALWAYS A COOL BREEZE
BRING A FOLDING CHAIR

Hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and desserts.

Contest for best salads and desserts – bring your best!
Peanut scramble for young and old, catch the golden peanut.

Games for all.

ENJOY OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC.

NOTES

To my Immanuel "Family": My heartfelt thanks for all of your prayers, get-well messages, telephone calls and altar flowers, during my hospital stay in April. And special thanks to Pastor Peterman for her welcomed visit before Easter or Palm Sunday. Her prayers and much needed advice helped me get "back on track". It worked – I'm home.

In Christian Love, Eleanor Badmann

Thank you to our Interim Minister – Pastor Peterman, for her welcomed visit recently. And to Joan & Fred Blicke for giving me Holy Communion here in the Life-Care Community where I've lived for almost 10 years. Immanuel will always be my church home. Sincerely, Dot Senner

Thanks to Bill Bender, Janice Reiff, Brandi Blank, Lucia Welsh, and Jeff Kerrick for your participation during our Wednesday Lenten Services.

Dear Friends at Immanuel: On behalf of Feast of Justice, thank you for your contribution of 3 bags and 22 boxes of food to the Food Cupboard. With your gift to the hunger program, Feast of Justice can continue its mission to transform the lives of individuals, families, and communities through our programs in Northeast Philadelphia.

Feast of Justice has continued to grow in our mission in this community, having distributed almost 250,000 pounds of food last year in seven months alone. Over 1100 families participate in our hunger, educational, and counseling programs annually.

Thank you for your generous support of this mission. You are a blessing to us!

In Christ, Caroline Willms, Donor Coordinator

STRANGE YEAR?

This year we're going to experience four unusual dates. 1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11, 11/11/11 and that's not all.

Take the last two digits of the year in which you were born – now add the age you will be this year, and the result will be 111 for everyone....!!

THANK YOU – Many thanks to the helping hands that made the Donut Day luncheon a resounding success. From set-up and clean-up, making the dough and frying the donuts, and our talented soup makers, your hard work paid off with a full house of satisfied diners. At the end of the day no soup or donuts remained! Those who hung around after lunch were entertained by the Four Gone Conclusions barbershop Quartette. All in all, it was a lovely afternoon.

We also extend our thanks to our Lenten Soup and Salad dinner group – for soup makers and soup eaters. Every week we had delicious soups and a variety of salad fixings and desserts. It was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. To those who helped with clean-up we say thank you! And we always love welcoming more to dinner so plan on joining us next year during Lent.

Ellen Kiefer & Janice Reiff

About our Nursery: We are hoping to have our nursery up and running by September. Please consider helping out by taking a Sunday to be a “child-sitter”.

We thank Helen and the entire choir and Earl Sladek for the wonderful job that they did with their music program on May 8th. We know that a lot of time and hard work was put into this program. Thanks again! You did a great job!!

The Worship & Music Committee

Anniversary Wishes

As we celebrate our 100th Year of Ministry we have found a few items around the church that need replacing. Perhaps you would like to help us out by donating the funds for these items:

- Flatware - stainless steel
- Non-stick pots and pans
- Coffee Carafes
- Heavy duty corrugated boxes for Christmas tree storage
- Carpets in offices and sanctuary
- Toilets for the PK & K bathrooms (installation labor will be donated)
- Case of concrete caulk compound
- Portable crib for nursery
- Diaper changing station
- Weed Whacker
- Snow blower

If you have an interest in donating funds for any of these items please complete the form and return to the office attention: church council.

Name _____ Envelope # _____

Phone # _____

I am donating \$_____ for _____

Immanuel resonated

with the mellow sounds of the ***Ted Newell and Friends Jazz Band*** and the unique sound quality of ***the Lancaster British Brass Band*** last Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon respectively. The jazz band entertained Immanuel's guests at the Council-sponsored dinner. The meal included Black Forest ham, macaroni & cheese, scalloped potatoes, green beans, garden salad, and snowflake rolls. A dessert of pound cake with toppings of whipped cream, chocolate, and strawberries followed. The musicians in the band include a teacher, a truck driver, physicians, and businessmen. The band formed due to a passion for jazz music; and their passion emanates! Guests were inspired to dance to the smooth jazz tones and repertoire of contemporary music. Selections included favorites such as New York New York, Fly Me To The Moon, Georgia On My Mind, and Pennies From Heaven. Ted Newell's vast experience includes performances with the Philadelphia Boys' Choir, The Philadelphia Orchestra, Peter Nero's Philly Pops, and The Mendelssohn Club at venues such as The Kimmel Center, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Academy of Music and concerts in Egypt.

On Sunday Immanuel celebrated its 100th Anniversary with a concert by the ***Lancaster British Brass Band***. The ***LBBB*** is composed of 28 members subdivided into ten cornets, one flugelhorn, three tenor horns, two baritone horns, three trombones, two euphoniums, four tubas and three percussionists. This is a select ensemble of the best regional brass and percussion players with a program selected to demonstrate the fullest potential of the medium. Now in its 7th season, the band joins the long thread of continuity beginning in England around 1832 and continuing to the present. The tremendous sound has been compared to "one big pipe organ." Walter Blackburn, Conductor, Music Professor Emeritus of Millersville University, is currently a free-lance bass player and teaches ear training, voice and piano. The band's selections range from Blenheim Flourished to Victors Acclaimed to The Peanut Vendor. The musicians socialized with guests at a reception following the concert in Fellowship Hall. All enjoyed refreshments of cookies, chocolate-dipped strawberries and punch.

Thanks to the volunteers and supporters of the events over 300 friends of Immanuel enjoyed a weekend of musical culture and culinary delights as well as fun and fellowship. From jazz bands to brass bands, Immanuel rocks!

We would like to thank members of the church council who made this weekend possible; Council President Joe Schroeck, Martha Baun, George Benson, Brandi Blank, Chris Claypoole, Lisa Cortes, Karen Delaney, Cheryl Kerrick, Ellen Kiefer, Janice Reiff, Jackie Schmid, and volunteers Charlie Baun, Ann Bender, Linda Daniels, Chef John Danzeisen, Helen Freiling, June Kerrick, Jeff Kerrick, Dorothy Leffler, Interim Pastor Janet Peterman, Harry Schmid, Lorraine Schroeck, as well as, Girl Scout Troops #91504, #91611 Leaders: Ann Spader, Kathleen Jonas, Marian Fruehwald, with Scouts Rachel, Heather, Rebecca, Nyshea, and Rebecca. We extend a very special thank you to Joe and Lorraine Schroeck who made the vision of having an exceptional celebration for Immanuel's 100th Anniversary with the *Lancaster British Brass Band* come true.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming events celebrating Immanuel's 100th year:

June 12 - Church Picnic, Burholme Park following church service

September 25 - Guest speaker - The Rev. Richard Hess
Immanuel Lutheran School Sunday

October 9 - Guest speaker - The Rev. Kenneth Smith
Grand Finale Dinner - Cannstatters Volksfest Verein
AND

November 12 – Your Church Council-sponsored Pork & Sauerkraut
Dinner

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The year is quickly coming to a close. It hardly seems possible!!

May was a very busy month for us. The first week in May was Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week and boy, did we feel appreciated! The Parent-Teacher League and School Board showered us with gifts and delicious food. Many thanks to everyone!

Our students showed off their talents at our Annual Talent Show on Friday, May 13th. We had piano players, singers, dancers, and skits. We certainly have some talented students here at Immanuel.

Friday, May 6th was a glorious summer-like day as our students participated in the annual Field Day at Burholme Park. The students and staff dragged along a few willing parents and walked to the park for a fun morning of races. The students enjoyed the races run by the 8th graders. What a great day!

The week of May 9th was Stanford testing week. Students in grades 1-8 were busy filling in little circles. We're sure the results will be as spectacular as they have been in the past.

The school hosted an Art Appreciation Night on Wednesday, April 28th. Our creative geniuses (that would be our students) created works of art to display!

The Kindergarten and 8th Grade are busy planning for their graduations in June. The Kindergarten graduation will take place during the Chapel service on Wednesday, June 8th. It's sure to be an A+ event!

The 8th grade students are looking forward to their year end activities including their Senior Trip to Dorney Park on June 9th. Their year will culminate with a special graduation service on Tuesday, June 14th at 7:30PM.

We once again thank you for your support of our school and our fundraising efforts. We will continue to collect can tabs, General Mills Box Tops for Education, and Campbell's food labels. Your participation makes them a great success for us.

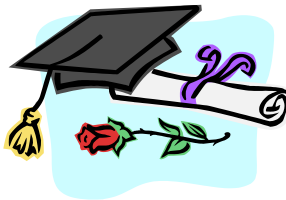
We look forward to seeing you at the ILC/ILS Picnic on June 12th!

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL CLASS OF 2011

Please pray for our graduates as they venture off to these fine high schools:

Bishop McDevitt	William Green
St Basil	Amanda Lyles
Central	Michael Forker, Christina Khou, William Trang
Mount St. Joseph	Christine Buhalo
Abington Jr. High	Elliot Leporati
Little Flower	Victoria Porreca
Tacony Academy Charter	Travis Taylor
Northeast	Anthony Watson

“Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”



SMILE

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

The mother replied, "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers.

The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.."

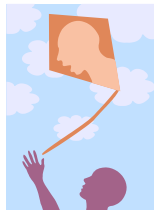
The second boy says, :That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

Two boys were walking home from Sunday School after hearing a strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about this Satan stuff?"

The other boy replied, "Well you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your Dad."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
7 th Sunday of Easter (White) WORSHIP 10 AM TRANSITION WORKSHOP 11:30-2 PM	5 SCOUTS 7 PM TRANSITION MTG 7-9 PM	6 7
The Day of Pentecost (Red) WORSHIP 10 AM PICNIC @ BURHOLME PARK NOON	12 SCOUTS 7 PM CHURCH COUNCIL 7 PM	13 14 Flag Day ILS 8 TH GRADE GRADUATION 6-10 PM
The Holy Trinity 1 st Sunday after Pentecost (White) WORSHIP 10 AM	19 SCOUTS 7 PM	20 21
2 nd Sunday after Pentecost (Green) WORSHIP 10 AM	26 BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM - NOON SCOUTS 7 PM	27 28 BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM – NOON ILS BOARD MTG 7 PM

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 BIBLE STUDY 7-8 PM	2 The Ascension of Our Lord GIRL SCOUTS 6:30	3	4 ILS FLEA MARKET 7AM-1 PM
8 BIBLE STUDY 7-8	9	10 END OF YEAR ILS DANCE 7-9:30 PM	11 St. Barnabas, Apostle (Red)
15	16	17	18
22 Summer Begins	23	24	25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession (White)
29 St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles (Red) BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM - NOON	30 BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM - NOON	BIBLE SCHOOL 9 AM - NOON	

JULY & AUGUST OUR SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE IS AT 10:00 AM. WE ARE OPEN AND AIR CONDITIONED.

DATED M
PLEASE DO

The Advan
Immanuel Ev
1013 Cottma
Philadelphia