

THE IMMANUEL HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5701 LOCH RAVEN BOULEVARD
BALTIMORE, MD 21239

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuellutheran.org

FEBRUARY 2025

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL: In addition to the in-person services, all Services are live streamed also. The live stream is available at the following Youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqkp9bt5FmMFDmfW0QNplUw/videos>

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL AT 10:00 a.m.

February 2

1 Samuel 1:21–28

Psalm 84

Hebrews 2:14–18

Luke 2:22–32 (33–40)

The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord

Hannah dedicates Samuel to the Lord.

“Blessed are those who dwell in Your house, ever singing Your praise!”

Jesus became like us.

Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the temple.

The children of God by faith are grafted into the flesh and blood of Jesus—the mitigator of fear and the destroyer of death. And so we are mightily fortified with Christ to withstand temptation’s assault, because He is our merciful companion in every respect. Therefore, along with Simeon we revel in knowing, seeing, and believing in the incomparable revelation and glory of Jesus—our salvation in living and dying.

February 9

Isaiah 6:1–8 (9–13)

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 14:12b–20

Luke 5:1–11

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah’s vision of the seraphim

I will praise You for Your love and faithfulness.

Excel in gifts that build up the church.

The miraculous catch of fish

Heaven and earth tremble before the holy God. All creation bends to His will. In stark contrast to the perfect God, we are an unclean, sinful people. But He has taken away our guilt and has atoned for our sin. As His new creation, we strive to excel in building up the church. For Christ calls us to be His messengers as He called the disciples to be fishers of men. Like Isaiah, we say, “Here am I! Send me.”

February 16

Jeremiah 17:5–8

Psalm 1

1 Corinthians 15:(1–11) 12–20

Luke 6:17–26

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord.

In the law of the Lord is their delight.

If Christ be not raised, your faith is in vain.

Blessed are they.

Those who trust in the Lord receive blessings. Like a tree planted by water, those who trust will not wither in the heat. The blessings are eternal, not temporal; spiritual, not physical; for the poor, the hungry, and the weeping are blessed. Therefore we rejoice in tribulation, for our reward is in heaven and Christ has indeed been raised. His resurrection is our sure promise that our faith is not in vain.

February 23

Genesis 45:3–15

Psalms 103:1–13

1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

Luke 6:27–38

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Joseph forgives his brothers.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul.”

“What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.”

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.”

God, in His infinite wisdom and knowledge, uses events and people to accomplish His will. In His grace and love, He can use even what may appear to be bad circumstances to save His people. As death came through man, so also through one man, Christ Jesus, comes life. As we live our lives in response to the Gospel, Jesus exhorts us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate, to pray for those who abuse, not to judge, and to turn the other cheek.

Ministry Notes

LCEF “Best Uses” Initiative

During a special Voter’s Assembly Meeting that took place on November 24, the congregation voted to accept a proposal from the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) that identifies LCEF Real Estate Solutions as a ministry partner who will explore the possibilities of utilizing real estate assets to further ministry, meet community needs, and create an alternate source of revenue. The spirit of this resolution is that LCEF will affirm the ministry heart of our congregation and act as a consultant to explore campus concepts related to real estate while always representing our best interests.

Specifically, LCEF is looking to identify and implement a strategy that would be based on “best uses” of the vacant land bordering Loch Raven Blvd and / or unused portions of our building. The concept here is that a portion of our land and/or building could be used to house an entity that would provide a regular and ongoing source of income that would be added to the church budget desired outcomes so that Immanuel can continue its ministry at Loch Raven and Belvedere.

Work has now begun in this area! In order to provide an opportunity for everyone to hear more about the work that is now in process, this topic was on the agenda of our Voters Assembly Meeting that was scheduled for January 19. LCEF District Vice President Kirk Hymes was scheduled to be present at this meeting. This meeting was postponed due to inclement weather and will now be held on Sunday, February 2. The LCEF presentation will not take place on February 2, but on a later date most likely during the month of February. Watch for more information on that event which should be coming out shortly.

Voter’s Assembly Rescheduled for Sunday, February 2

The Voter’s Meeting that was to take place last Sunday, January 19, was postponed due to the forecast for inclement weather. That meeting has been rescheduled

and will now be held on Sunday, February 2 immediately following the 10 AM worship service. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

"EACH ONE, REACH ONE"

That's the slogan we use for our Friendship Sundays, as we encourage you to reach out and invite others to worship with us.

Our Friendship Sunday in December was a success as we welcomed 12 visitors to our wonderful service and enjoyed refreshments in the narthex as we socialized with each other and our guests.

NOW we have Three Friendship Sundays scheduled for this year with a theme for each.

February 16 - Valentine theme

June 29 - Fourth of July theme

November 23 - Thanksgiving theme

Please plan now to invite others to join us for worship on these dates.

More information will be available as these dates approach.

CHURCH CALENDAR

February 16, Friendship Sunday

March 5, 12:10 pm and 7 pm, Ash Wednesday service

March 12-April 9, 12:10 pm, Lent Service with soup lunch

April 13, Palm Sunday

April 17, 12:10 pm and 7 pm, Maundy Thursday service

April 18, 12:10 pm and 7 pm, Good Friday Service

April 20, 8 am, Easter Sunrise Service

10 am, Divine Service,
11:15 am, Easter Egg Hunt

OTHER EVENTS

March 29, LRIA/Bingo
April 5, Flea market

Lay Readers:

February 2, Carolyn Henn
February 9, Mary Ruble
February 16, Mark Smith
February 23, June Dennis

Communion Assistants:

First Sunday of the month, Denise Waicker
Third Sunday of the month, Sylvanus Ibenana

CHURCH FLOWERS

If you would like a special arrangement, the procedure is to call Denise Waicker at (443) 981-0019 or Denisewaicker@mac.com. Denise needs to know the date you select and the statement you want to include so that she can order the flowers for that Sunday. The cost depends on your selection. Pay by cash or check (make payable to *Denise Waicker*) and give to Denise Waicker in person or mail checks via the postal service.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Our nation, as a new Administration begins
-Sharon Minetree, who will undergo a medical procedure this week
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
-Those affected by the California wildfires
-Elaine Mueller, who had hip surgery and is recovering well
-For peace in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and Russia
-Bonnie and Joe Castrilli as she cares for her husband who has dementia
-Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown

Birthdays:

2 Charles Libby
3 Nnenna Ibenana
9 Kristin Beatty
10 Emalee Smith
15 ReNay Royster
Phyllis Rebstock
17 Pastor Minetree
21 Phoebe Clark
25 Wendie Wegner

27 Joyce Marani

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Voter's Assembly meeting 12 pm Eritrean	3 7 pm Adult Confirmation	4	5	6 7 pm Choir practice	7	8 10 am Wings
9 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Adult bible study 12 pm Eritrean	10 7 pm Adult Confirmation	11	12 Noon ~ Bible class & lunch 6:30 pm LRIA BoD	13 7 pm Choir practice	14 <i>Valentines Day</i>	15 9:30 G Boys
16 Friendship Sunday 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Adult bible study 12 pm Eritrean	17 7 pm Adult Confirmation	18 7 pm LRIA General	19 6:00 pm Council meeting	20 7 pm Choir practice	21 Pastor's vacation begins	22
23 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Eritrean	24 Pastor's vacation -----	25 -----	26 -----	27 ----- 7 pm Choir practice	28 -----	

The Baltimore Bulletin Insert

February 2025

*Events of area LCMS churches, entities, and Recognized Service Organizations
Deadline for March edition: February 20th*

Baltimore Bulletin Insert Feature Event

Note: DOXOLOGY is a trusted ministry within Synod, presenting this conference within worthwhile driving distance. Synod is underwriting the cost so that Pastors, Congregational leaders, and interested laypeople may be well established in the Word.

"In His Image" Conference:
Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture
Saturday, March 1
9:00am – 4:00pm
Messiah Lutheran Church
13903 Clopper Rd, Germantown, MD 20874
Presented by DOXOLOGY
Open to All | Childcare provided
Cost: Free | Donations appreciated

About the Conference:

The church faces significant challenges as it navigates the legal redefinition of marriage, the complexities of gender, and evolving sexual norms. This conference aims to equip Christians and their pastors with the tools to articulate a positive Christian perspective on marriage and sexuality so they can engage thoughtfully and live confidently amidst today's challenges. Visit bit.ly/MessiahIHI for more information and to register.

EVANGELISM BREAKFAST #2 *Bethlehem Lutheran, Baltimore*
Saturday, March 8, 9a. Evangelism Breakfast #1 was met with such enthusiasm by the 40 of you who came. In response to your suggestions, we are having #2. You are invited to attend at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4815 Hamilton Ave, 21206. The breakfast menu is planned and will be a crowd pleaser. R.S.V.P. To karenkeck@gmail.com or 443-865-4251, so we know the amount of food to prepare. We can't wait to take this to the next level together. We look forward to God's continued blessing on this event.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Galilee, Pasadena
Nine week course starting Monday, Feb. 3, 6:30-7:30p, Call Gordon for more info: 443.694.1531

HOME SCHOOL MEET UP

Faith Lutheran, Eldersburg
Faith Lutheran Church is excited to offer a monthly meet-up to connect home-school families with elementary-aged children through Christian fellowship, art and music exploration, and family collaboration. Held on the last Wednesday of each month from 2:00 to 4:30p. Please sign up: www.faithlutheraneldersburg.com and click "Faith and Family Homeschool Connections." Space is limited.

READING AND MATH PROGRAM, FOOD PANTRY

Bethlehem, Baltimore
10-11:45 am, 1st Saturday of every month.

BEREA LUTHERAN, BALTIMORE

BIBLE Study - Theme – "What Did You Say?" Thursdays 7:00 – 9:00p. In person or via ZOOM
Temple Rock- Dancercise - Line dancing to Gospel music Mondays, 2:30p in building and via Zoom
Pain Clinic - Wednesdays, 12:30-1:30p via Zoom. Certified pain therapist helps get rid of pain with simple movements
Game Night- 2999 Belair Road, Baltimore, MD Friday January 31. 7:00 - 9:30p Come and fellowship with others playing fun board games. Enjoy refreshments too!
Email: berealutheran2999@gmail.com for details and Zoom link.

This insert only happens because your church submits items.
A service of The Wyneken Project, appreciating the fellowship we share.
Submit your event to Secretary@MartiniLutheran.org For locations of churches see LCMS.org > Locators & Directories