

THE IMMANUEL HERALD

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

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuellutheran.org

FEBRUARY 2020

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL

February 2

1 Samuel 1:21–28
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.
Jesus became like us.
Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the temple.*

February 9

Isaiah 58:3-9a
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany – Special Mission Sunday

*Your light will break forth like the dawn.
My message was with a demonstration of the Spirit's power.
"You are the salt of the earth ... the light of the world."*

February 16

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

*Love the Lord your God; walk in His ways.
"You are God's field, God's building."
Jesus explains the Law.*

February 23

Exodus 24:8-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

*Moses goes up on Mt. Sinai.
"We were eyewitnesses of His majesty."
Jesus is transfigured on the mountaintop.*

February 26

Joel 2:12-19
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Ash Wednesday

*"Return to the Lord your God."
"Be reconciled to God...Now is the day of salvation."
"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

Ministry Notes

'Til All Have Heard

A new Lent Season Bible is beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 29th. We will be looking at the Great Commission in the New Testament and how the people of God live that today. Each Wednesday and Sunday after Ash Wednesday the same topic class will be taught to facilitate all members of Immanuel to participate. Perhaps, for your Lent vow this year, you commit to attend all session of the Bible Class either Wednesday at 12:50pm (study and eat lunch), 6:10pm (study and eat dinner) or Sunday 9:00am. You will grow in your faith as the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God. He will

change our hearts and bring us to a new and exciting understand of our mission (and Immanuel's Future). I hope to see you there. Pastor Minetree and Pastor Witt.

Ash Wednesday and Lent Services

As we close in on the beginning of Spring, we see the trees begin to bud. Our Wednesday Lent series this you well be "Living Among the Bible's Trees." We will begin our journey by looking at the Eden tree where our trouble began "The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Lent will begin Wednesday, February 29th. This is Ash Wednesday. We will have the imputation of Ashes as a

sign of repentance and we will receive the Sacrament for the forgiveness of our sins. As in the past we will have two services per Wednesday. One will be 12:10pm with a soup lunch and Bible study to follow. The second will be 7pm with a soup dinner and Bible study to precede. Make a Lent vow to attend these services and Bible studies.

A THANK YOU!

Pastor Minetree and Sharon thank the congregation for your very generous Christmas gift. We are truly touched by the love we receive from all of you!

JOINT WORSHIP CELEBRATING THE LORD ALL OF THE EARTH

On Sunday February 9, the Eritrean congregation will be joining us in the sanctuary at 10:00 for worship in the divine service. We will be blessed with the addition of some Eritrean culture as we see a glimpse of our eternal life in which people from many nations and cultures come together to live with the Lamb of God. Immediately after the divine service a potluck meal will be shared downstairs. Please plan to come and join the communal celebration. Providing a food item to share is requested but not required.

Come let us go up to the house of the Lord together!

COMING SOON - "TIL ALL HAVE HEARD" MISSION FUNDING CAMPAIGN

Immanuel set forth on its new mission strategy in December with the Call of the Reverend Lucas Witt (a former Vicar at ILC), to serve as Missionary and Associate Pastor of Immanuel. Pastor Witt was installed during a special afternoon worship service December 15. He has begun his ministry as missionary and is planning activities that will result in him spending the majority of his time outside of the church in the surrounding communities involved in efforts to reach others for Christ.

When calling Pastor Witt, members of Immanuel did so with the knowledge that there were not sufficient funds in our treasury to pay him over the long term for these mission efforts. While we had funds for the first year of his ministry, additional funds needed to be raised in support of his efforts past 2020. Coupled with the prayerful decision to call Pastor Witt, the congregation also authorized its leaders to initiate efforts to raise the needed new mission funds through a mission funding campaign. "Til All Have Heard" will be the name and theme of this mission campaign that will begin on February 23 and be concluded by the end of March. We seek to raise \$225,000 in support of this new ministry to

grow God's Kingdom, and with God's help, we are confident that this can be accomplished.

In the coming weeks, you will be receiving additional information on the campaign and how you might be involved in the bible studies, activities, and other events that are included. We pray that you will join us as we prepare our hearts for mission through the "Til All Have Heard" campaign.

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY MEETING

The Board of Lay Ministry will meet on Sunday, February 16 following the church service.

Missionary Musings

Harvest Incubators

"The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man."

Matthew 13:27

Jesus is God. Jesus is the Son of God. He could single handedly save the world and created the world. He was literally self-sufficient as true God. What a marvel that when he came to earth, he surrounded himself with community. And not just community, but even assistance. Jesus sent others to prepare for Passover and find five loaves to multiply. I marvel that during his ministry Jesus worked with others. He went out right away and did what every rabbi did: call disciples, seek followers, build community.

Why? Well, one reason is he clearly wanted the message that "the Kingdom of God is at hand" to continue. When Jesus ascended, the message did not cease. The work did not stop. He continued a Jewish model that continues – living in community, ministering in and with community. We as humans, are certainly not self-sufficient. I especially do ministry alone very well. I need silence to study, to read, and to internally process. When it comes time to look up from the bible and instead look through God's Word into the world, I must speak and hear. Do you have this tendency? Do you also work better, like it or not, with other people? Do you have helpful meetings and gatherings where conversations of potential ideas come from thoughts, dreams, and then out the mouth. I hope to.

I need a group of harvest incubators. A bird sits on an egg to keep it warm until the time comes to hatch. She or he incubates the egg and keeps it warm as the life inside prepares to come forth. Do you have ideas that are incubating for the harvest of God's future children? Do you have an ability to help sort out ideas for good eggs to

incubate and rotten ones that need to be prudent? Do you like to converse about what God's may have hatching? Will you be a harvest incubator?

In my call acceptance letter Steve Heemann read to you, I told you calling me does not decrease your work, responsibly, and investment through Immanuel, calling me *increases* your work, responsibility, and time investment. Right now, I need a group of people who are willing to help incubate ideas with me so they can hatch into the harvest field. Jesus, the master teacher, was surrounded by disciples who would be an active part of the story of salvation. I am not a master teacher, but I also need to be incubating with others for the fullness of God's harvest potential through Immanuel to be seen.

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 is \$20.00 for a Special Arrangement and \$40.00 for Altar Flowers. Pay by cash or check (made payable to the "Altar Guild") and give to Denise Waicker in person or mail checks via the postal service.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Bradley Will, who is being treated for cancer
- Coreathia Davis
- Carl Harvey, who is home recovering
- Amelia Mallonee
- Pastor Tom Foelber who is being treated for cancer
- Pastor Les Beale, who is near the end of his pilgrimage
- Marguerite Lohrmann, who recently fell & was hospitalized
- Deborah Thomas & Family at the death of her brother

Birthdays:

- 2 Charles Libby
- 3 Nnenna Ibenana
- 9 Kristin Beatty
- 10 Emalee Smith
- 15 John Pickering
ReNay Royster
- 16 Franklin Davis
Phyllis Rebstock
- 17 Pastor Minetree
- 21 Phoebe Clark
- 25 Wendie Wegner
- 26 Carl Harvey
Ray Will
- 27 Joyce Marani

Community News

LMS BULL & OYSTER ROAST April 25th

Join us on Saturday, April 25, 2020 from 1:30 PM till 5:30 PM at Richlin Ballroom, 1700 Van Bibber Road, Edgewood, MD 21040 for a Bull & Oyster Roast to benefit LMS Compassion Place ministries. There will be door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, a Silent Auction and music.

Please help by filling a table of 8-10. Cost is \$50 per person and tickets are available now. Call 410-636-0123 or email: tickets@compassionplace.org. More information and a complete menu can be found at <https://CompassionPlace.org>.

Enjoy a fun evening and great food while helping folks in need. Thanks for your support!

CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE				
	Altar Guild	Lay Reader	Liturgist	Communion Assistant
Feb 2	Nina Ward/ Denise Waicker	Nickel Lietzau	Mark Smith	Albert Lietzau IV
Feb 9		Mary Ruble	Rick McDonnell	Sylvanus Ibenana
Feb 16	Elaine Schwab/ Phyllis Rebstock	Jean Heemann	Ted Henn	Albert Lietzau V
Feb 23		Carolyn Henn	Steve Heemann	Albert Lietzau IV
Feb 26 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>			Mark Smith	

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10 am-12 pm Compassion Center
2 <i>The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of the Lord</i> 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship, Holy Communion 11:45 am New Zion Ministries	3 7:15 pm Choir rehearsal Agape Group (Ray Spitznas)	4	5 6 pm Men's Bible Class (Bill Hermann's office)	6	7	8 10 am-12 pm Compassion Center 10 am The Real Wings
9 <i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship, Holy Communion 11:45 am New Zion Ministries	10 7:15 pm Choir rehearsal Agape Group (Ray Spitznas)	11	12 9:30 am Women's Bible Study	13	14	15 10 am-12 pm Compassion Center
16 <i>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</i> 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship, Holy Communion 11:30 am Board of Lay Ministry 11:45 am New Zion Ministries	17 7:15 pm Choir rehearsal Agape Group (Ray Spitznas)	18 6 pm Finance Committee Meeting	19 7 pm Church Council	20	21	22 10 am – 12 pm Compassion Center
23 <i>The Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship, Holy Communion 11:45 am New Zion Ministries	24 IMMANUEL HERALD ARTICLES DUE Agape Group (Ray Spitznas)	25	26 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 12:10 pm - Worship followed by Soup Lunch & Bible Study 6 pm - Soup Dinner & Bible Study (6:10 pm) 7 pm – Worship	27	28	29 10 am – 12 pm Compassion Center