

# THE IMMANUEL HERALD

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

Visit Immanuel's website [www.immanuellutheran.org](http://www.immanuellutheran.org)

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## JANUARY 2025

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**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/UCqkp9bt5FmMFDmfW0QNpIUw/videos>

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

**January 5**

**1 Kings 3:4–15**

**Psalms 119:97–104**

**Ephesians 1:3–14**

**Luke 2:40–52**

**Second Sunday after Christmas**

Solomon asks the Lord for wisdom.

The law of the Lord gives understanding and wisdom.

We are blessed through Christ.

The boy Jesus in the temple

*Only twelve years old, Jesus, the boy in the temple, is already full of the wisdom of God. As Solomon prayed for wisdom as God's greatest gift, today we are given a glimpse into God's wisdom. His wisdom is the greatest and highest wisdom: that a person is not and cannot be saved by his own works or actions, but solely by faith in the gift of Jesus Christ. We become God's children and His own family by God's action of adopting us.*

**January 6**

**Isaiah 60:1–6**

**Psalms 72:1–11 (12–15)**

**Ephesians 3:1–12**

**Matthew 2:1–12**

**The Epiphany**

"Arise, shine, for your light has come."

"All kings fall down before Him."

"You can perceive my insight."

The visit of the Magi

*Light eradicates darkness, illuminates creation's glory, and strips away the shroud of mystery. Christ is the light to which all kings and authorities bow down. He makes known the mysteries and salvation of God through the apostles and prophets. The Word and will of the Lord is no longer possessed by a singular people, nor is it cloaked in any kind of ambiguity. All are summoned and blessed to worship Christ. He is our exceeding joy in which our hearts thrill and exult.*

**January 12**

**Isaiah 43:1–7**

**Psalms 29**

**Romans 6:1–11**

**Luke 3:15–22**

**The Baptism of Our Lord**

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you."

"The voice of the Lord is powerful."

We are united with Christ in His death and resurrection in Baptism.

John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan.

*Baptism in Christ carefully balances the terror of death and the exhilaration of resurrection. Sin is dismantled, disarmed, and destroyed. The sinner, engrafted now to Christ, becomes a new creation, baptized and resurrected like Jesus, alive to God and claimed by Him forever. The realm of death cannot possess the life of a believer. John boldly engages in this ministry of proclamation and divine action. Even Jesus submits to Baptism, receiving the declaration of His Father, "You are My beloved Son."*

**January 19****62:1–5****Psalm 128****1 Corinthians 12:1–11****John 2:1–11****Second Sunday after Epiphany**

The nations will see Your righteousness, and all kings Your glory.

“Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord.”

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.

Jesus’ miracle at the wedding of Cana

*Jesus manifests His glory at the wedding feast at Cana, changing ordinary water into exquisite wine. The church treasures this divine action of Christ, remembering, believing, and receiving forgiveness in Jesus’ divine blood, in, under, and with ordinary wine. God in Christ binds Himself to His people, from desolate forsaken Israel to the holy church of today. She is the Bride, and He the Bridegroom, whose resolute faithfulness seals the marriage covenant with us forever.*

**January 26****Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10****Psalm 19:(1–6) 7–14****1 Corinthians 12:12–31a****Luke 4:16–30****Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Ezra reads the Law to the people.

“The Law of the Lord is perfect.”

We are all a part of the Body of Christ.

Jesus preaches in the synagogue. “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

*Only Jesus sufficiently comprehends and delivers the counsels of God in the purity of the Law and the grace of the Gospel. As sinners, postured to heed God’s Word, we are crushed, tear-filled, perceiving mammoth guilt. And yet this is the holy intent of God—confession of sin and repentance unleash the Gospel’s joy! Sinners receive undeserved forgiveness; the poor, good news; the captive and oppressed, liberty; and the blind, sight. Jesus offers these things to believing and hardened hearts alike.*

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## Ministry Notes

**Work Has Begun on 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 and an initial report will be provided at the January 19 Voters Assembly Meeting.

**Building On Christ, Equipping Forthe Future**

LCEF Best Uses and Friendship Sunday are two examples of the work of two *Building on Christ, Equipping For the Future* teams that have generated positive outcomes. A

full report will be provided at the January 19 Voter’s Assembly Meeting.

**Lay Readers:***January 5, Rick Kruelle**January 12, Mary Ruble**January 19, Mark Smith**January 26, Gary Stratemeyer***Altar Guild:***January 5 and 12, Nina Ward and Rita Alcarese**January 19 and 26, Mary Ruble and Veronica Hylton***CHURCH FLOWERS**

If you would like a special arrangement, the procedure is to call Denise Waicker at (443) 981-0019 or [Denisewaicker@mac.com](mailto: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:**

-For the family of Bill Hermann who went to his eternal home on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

-Elaine Mueller, who had hip surgery and is recovering well

- Sharon Minetree, who had good test results
- Pastor Elliott Robertson, who is recovering from bypass surgery
- For complete recovery of Barbara Griffa, June Dennis' sister who is in rehab
- Sylvia Holland, a family relative of June Dennis, for her complete recovery from a stroke
- For peace in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and Russia
- Bonnie and Joe Castrilli as she cares for her husband who has dementia
- Ginger Glindemann for family members who are being treated for cancer
- Winnie Kruelle who has been diagnosed with cancer
- Naomi Kruelle for health reasons
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown

**Birthdays:**

- 4 Augusta Ibenana  
Anthony Summers
- 5 Scott McDonnell
- 6 Jane Derry
- 12 Lillian Noel
- 14 Sarah McDonnell
- 16 Andrea Fuller
- 19 Richard Kruelle
- 29 Mark Smith  
Roland Obedekah

## January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7pm Choir practice	3	4 10:30 am Funeral Bill Hermann
5 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Adult bible study 12 pm Eritrean	6 7 pm Adult confirmation	7	8 Noon Bible study and lunch 6:30 LRIA BoD 6:30 Council	9 7pm Choir practice	10	11 10 am Wings
12 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Adult bible study 12 pm Eritrean	13 7 pm Adult confirmation	14 7 pm LRIA General	15	16 7pm Choir practice	17	18 10 am G Boys Memorial service Rick McDonnell
19 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Voter's meeting 12 pm Eritrean	20 7 pm Adult confirmation	21	22 Noon bible study and lunch	23 7pm Choir practice	24	25
26 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 Adult bible study 12 pm Eritrean	27 7 pm Adult confirmation	28	29	30 7pm Choir practice	31	

# The Baltimore Bulletin Insert

**January 2025**

*Events of area LCMS churches, entities, and Recognized Service Organizations*

*Deadline for February edition: January 20<sup>th</sup>*

## **NEW YEARS DAY WORSHIP**

12:00 noon Redeemer, Irvington

## **EPIPHANY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, MON., JANUARY. 6**

7:00 Redeemer, Irvington

7:30p Our Saviour Lutheran, Ednor Gardens

## **THANK YOU**

*St. Thomas Lutheran, Carrollton Ridge*

Thank you for supplying and volunteering for our Thanksgiving Dinner (100 served!) and for sponsoring a child (94 received many presents!) through The Tree of Hope and helping fill Christmas Baskets (40 families generously fed!), all connected to worship and given in Jesus' Name.

## **FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY**

*Galilee, Pasadena*

Classes are every Monday starting Feb. 3 6:30-9p, 45-60 minutes. Register at [financialpeace.com](http://financialpeace.com)

## **ACTIVITIES AT BERE...**

*Berea, Belair-Edison*

*More info.: [BereaLutheran2999@gmail.com](mailto:BereaLutheran2999@gmail.com) .*

SED President Bill Harmon will be at Berea on Jan. 12

- 1) *Temple Rock*: Dancercise ea. Mon, 2:30p, in person.
- 2) *Pain Clinic*: Wed, 12:30-1:30p, Zoom. With certified therapist.
- 3) Bible Study: Thurs., 7-9p

## *Save the Date:*

Saturday, March 8, Evangelism Breakfast, Bethlehem Lutheran

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](mailto:Secretary@MartiniLutheran.org)*

*For locations of churches see [LCMS.org](http://LCMS.org) > Locators & Directories*