

IMMANUEL

Lutheran Church

MARCH 2011

UPCOMING MESSAGE SERIES

- ◆ MAR. 6
MATT. 17:1-9
- ◆ MAR. 13
MATT. 4:1-11
- ◆ MAR. 20
JOHN 3:1-17
- ◆ MAR. 27
JOHN 4:5-42

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Together, Let us discern what God calls us to do at Immanuel during Lent

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In the story, "The Blind Men and An Elephant," each man describes the elephant according to the parts of the animal that he could touch. The lesson is both simple and profound: our understanding of the whole (the entire elephants) is influenced by who we are and where we are. While no one can have a complete picture of the whole, when we, as a community, are open our hearts and minds to listen to one another and compare notes with one another, we will have a much clearer picture of the whole.

This is not simply a lesson about worldly matters but spiritual affairs as well. Christianity is a communal faith. We are not called as hermits but as individuals to participate in the work of the larger whole – the Body of Christ. When each of us contributes our Spiritual gifts to the larger whole, the ministries of Christ flourish. St. Paul writes, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;...To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:4, 7)."

With this in mind, I am very excited about the Missioning and Planning Process that is about to take place during Lent (see my article in the February newsletter.) The word "Lent" means spring and regeneration. How fitting that we will use this period to contemplate together the question, What does God call us to do at Immanuel?

We expect that by the end of June 2011, we should have completed items #1 & #2, and a part of #3 of the following:

- 1) A revised Mission Statement for Immanuel that will guide our ministries for the next 5-10 years;
- 2) A set of time bound, concrete and measurable goals that will guide our actions in the next couple of years;
- 3) A set of Action plans that spell out specific steps for us to reach these goals.

One thing that makes this missioning process so special is that we will take very seriously the Scriptural teaching that "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7)." We believe that the success of the process relies heavily on the input from each and every

member of Immanuel, regardless of their age and the number of years they have been members of Immanuel. To accomplish that, we will invite and collect comments and thoughts through three different small-group Bible Study and Discussion forums that are open to ALL members during Lent. Here are the details:

- 1) Each member of the congregation will be invited to participate in three different forums. Each of the three Forum focuses on different Biblical passages and missional questions.
- 2) To encourage freer exchanges from participants, each session will have only 10 – 12 members.
- 3) To accommodate members' busy schedule, there will be multiple sessions for each of the three Forums. We will use three Midweek Lenten Soup suppers for the Forums.
- 4) Each forum will begin with prayers and Bible Study as our discernments of the direction of the congregation must be informed by the Scriptures.
- 5) Throughout the session, Forum leaders will ask guiding

Living in Christ,
Loving God's
people.
Teaching the
Word,
Reaching the
world.

questions to encourage members to express themselves freely on matters relating to the mission, goals and action plans of Immanuel. No comments are too "too old," "too new," or "too wild."

6) Members are encouraged to respect one another and value one another's inputs even as we do not always agree with one another. As the old saying goes, "We can disagree with one another without being disagreeable."

7) Members of the Missioning and Planning Committee (MPC) will facilitate the Bible Study and Discussion Forums by leading Bible Studies, asking guiding questions and collecting comments.

8) Afterwards, members of the MPC will use information gathered to draft a Mission Statement, Goal Statements and Action Plans.

9) The Missioning and Planning Committee (MPC) is not a decision making body but a committee that helps facilitate the process and "harvest" thoughts and comments from members.

10) The Decision Makers are members of the congregation, who will be responsible for approving the draft mission statement goal statements and action plans.

Our sincerest gratitude goes to members of the Missioning and Planning Committee, who have accepted the invitation from the Council of Immanuel to serve on this very special

body: Craig Borneman (President of Congregation & Ex Officio Member, Arlene Anderson, Glen Bates, Sue Boldt, Glen Borneman, Kyle Corrigan, Jim Follmer, Ed Guettler, Pat Johnson, Linda Stephens, Paula Stoehr, Sandy Stone, and Calvin Wallis,

In the days and weeks ahead, you will hear more about the process through personal invitation cards, Sunday Bulletins and other media. But we need your help NOW:

1. Please pray for the Missioning and Strategic Planning Process often and for members of the committee.

2. Please accept the personal invitation that you will soon receive and let us know which sessions of the Bible Study and Discussion Forum you can be part of.

3. Please come to the forum and share your thoughts and comments freely.

Once again, we praise God that "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:4, 7)." Let us walk together on this journey of discerning God's Call to us at Immanuel during Lent in prayers and in Spirit. Thank You.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Joe

KIDS PROGRAMS

Sunday School

The Sunday School had a successful fundraiser with the Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast. We fee over 130 people and raised \$1051. The Sunday School will be donating \$400 to the food pantry at Helmar Lutheran and \$400 to ELCA World Hunger Relief. The remaining will go towards the Sunday School. There were 23 Sunday School students who helped cook, serve and greet. The Sunday School wishes to thank everyone who came and supported this fundraiser along with all the Sunday School families for their continued support.

The Sunday School started a new topic of "Walking on Water". Ask any Pre-K through 6th grader about it.

Confirmation

The confirmation classes will be Sunday, March 6th at noon and Sunday, March 20th at noon.

Luther League

Luther League will be having their March meeting on Sunday, March 13th at 11:30 am. Ryan Lippold and Travis Bateman will lead devotions.



**A L T A R
G U I L D**

The Altar Guild will meet on Monday, March 7th at 6:30. The altar committee for March is Lesli Ambrose and Brendaj Corrigan. Lesli will be the server. We look forward to welcoming anyone interested in joining our ministry. Please contact Connie Worley (630-552-3976) if you would like more information. The Altar Guild has many greeting cards and also napkins available for sale in the hallway display.

Happenings at Immanuel

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, March 8th at 1:30 pm.** Carol Foster will be the Bible Study Leader and Bev Borneman will be the hostess. Please note that Circle is now meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm. For more information, contact Betty Hardecopf at 630-553-5336.

Servant Hearts Circle

Servant Hearts Circle will meet on **Thursday, March 10th at 6:30 pm.** Denise Stevenson will be the server. For more info, contact Brenda Corrigan at 630-553-1525. Join the ladies for Bible study and fun!

Greeters, Readers, Ushers, Counters, & Acolytes

GREETERS

9 am

Linda Stephens
Craig & Jenni Borneman
Dick & Dianne Nenne
Ken & Eva Walker

Mar. 6
Mar. 13
Mar. 20
Mar. 27 S

10:30 am

Jenni Mulvey
Kent & Lea Bateman
Neil & Bev Borneman
Steve & Kim Borneman

USHERS

9 am

Craig Borneman & Earl Worley

10:30 am

Bruce Devick & Ron Molchanov

COUNTERS

Keith Collman, & Sandy Collman

ACOLYTES

Kyle Lippold (9 am) & Maggie Sampson (10:30 am)

READERS

9 am

Janet Bretthauer
Ed Guettler
Kelly Leonetti
May Heiden

Mar. 6
Mar. 13
Mar. 20
Mar. 27

10:30 am

Jenni Mulvey
Glenn Borneman
Nancy Curran
Sharon Hosler

Welcome Little Blessings!

Spread the word to family and friends with little ones. "Little Blessings" - Immanuel's nursery area - is now available in the Council Room each Sunday during the 9 a.m. service. We welcome with warm smiles and loving arms infants through 3 yrs. Parents are asked to leave a mobile phone number at sign-in so they can receive a text in the event the nursery needs to reach them during service. For more information or to volunteer, contact Sally Bates (sally_bates@hotmail.com) or Kathy Dove (krdove5@comcast.net). *At this time we are not in need of additional toys, as our storage space is limited.*



IMMANUEL COOKBOOKS

It's a good time to make some soup or chili to warm up on one of these wintry nights. Why not buy a cookbook and give it to a friend? If you are interested in purchasing a cookbook, contact Maryjo Mott at 815-254-9117.



Pray for the congregation as they work in groups with the missioning and visioning meetings.

Pray for Marie Thomas in Hillside.

Pray for Carolyn Leifheit and Millie Tripp at Bickford Cottage.

Pray for Frances and Ronnie Bretthauer in Jennings Terrace.

Pray for the Outreach Committee.

Celebrations!

MARCH

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 3/1 – Dhane Hardecopf | 3/12 Delaney Gauer | 3/24 – Gary Bretthauer
Jeremy Gauer
Melanie Karales |
| 3/2 – Parker Medlin | 3/13—Maryann Gorham | |
| 3/3—Hannah Leonetti | 3/15 – Heidi Dockstader | 3/25 - Kathi Dockstader |
| 3/5 – Sandy Stone | 3/16 – Travis Bateman
Jim Follmer
Ken Stone | 3/26 - Chris Morgart |
| 3/6 – Bruce Sampson | | 3/28 – Ryan Bateman |
| 3/7 – Betty Hardecopf* | 3/18 – Ronnie Bretthauer
Clint Corrigan
Roger Olson
Terry Sampson | 3/29 – Rebecca Hughes
Greg Molitor |
| 3/8 – Erika Kreppert
Mylan Brower | | * over 80 years old |
| 3/10 – Gena Gerdin | 3/19 Samantha Cotton | |

Anniversaries

- 3/6 – Chris & Kim Morgart
- 3/16 – Laverne & Billie Poppen
- 3/25 – Bill and JoAnne Behrens**
- 3/27 – Lyle & Betty Hardecopf**

**Celebrating 50 years or more



Pray for Bill Butts, Carole Butts' brother Jim Sundlin, Nancy Fugleberg, Chris Dove's aunt Glenn Bornemann, Scott Heiden, and Keith Collman,

Pray for Kendall County PADS project. Pray for the volunteers from Immanuel who serve on this important ministry.

Pray for the homeless people who are seeking shelter during the cold.



Pray for all those things that we may not be able to give words to but lay heavy on our hearts.

Pray for our Sunday School classes, Luther League, and Circles.

Pray for all your loved ones.

Reaching out to others...



Busy Hands

Busy Hands will meet on **Wednesday, March 9th and 23rd at 9 am.** It's been fun getting together on these blustery days of winter. While its cold outside we are working on quilts to provide warmth from the cold and shelter from the sun. Why not join us? We have a lot of blocks cut out already and are arranging the blocks into quilts. If you would like to make a quilt, but cannot come during the day, we will provide you with the blocks. These are basic quilts made from squares. Just call the church office at 630-553-5368 if you are interested. The ladies making prayer shawls would be happy to share patterns and teach you how to make one. All levels of ability are welcome. Don't forget to take a prayer shawl if you know of someone who could use a prayer. They are on the bench outside of the sanctuary.



The next Council meeting is Tuesday, March 8th @ 7 pm.

Missioning & Planning Committee

Immanuel's church council has established the Mission and Planning Committee (MCP). The purpose of this committee is to determine God's mission for his church on earth and Immanuel's role in it. You will receive an invitation to help us in this task by sharing your ideas as to Immanuel's mission and how to fulfill that mission. Please help as we look to a God-filled future for Immanuel.

Prayerfully,
the MCP Committee

Lenten Devotion Schedule

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, March 9th. The service will be at 7 pm. On March 16th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, 13th, and 20th, a simple meal of soups and breads will be served at 6 pm. The devotions will begin at 7 pm. On March 16th and 30th, the first and second forums will be held by the MCP Committee.

The Maundy Thursday service will be on April 21st at 7 pm, and the Good Friday service on April 22nd will be at 7 pm. Easter services will be on April 24th at 6:30 am and 9:30 am. Sunday School classes will not meet. The Easter breakfast will be served.



Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday School class is on an extended spring break. We will resume **4/10** with new material [So

What's The Difference by Fritz Ridenour - Buddhism, Mormonism, Humanism, Witchcraft, Jehovah's Witnesses, and more].

Mission Forums

The Missioning and Planning Committee invites you to participate in the Mission Forums. Below is a schedule of forums.

Forum 1

- Wednesday, March 16, 6:45-7:45 pm @ Immanuel
- Friday, March 18, 9:30-10:30 am @ Panera Bread, Yorkville
- Saturday, March 19, 10:30-11:30 am @ Immanuel

Forum 2

- Wednesday, March 30, 6:45-7:45 pm @ Immanuel
- Friday, April 1, 9:30-10:30 am @ Panera Bread, Yorkville
- Saturday, April 2, 10:30-11:30 am @ Immanuel

Forum 3

- Wednesday, April 13, 6:45-7:45 pm @ Immanuel
- Friday, April 15, 9:30-10:30 am @ Panera Bread, Yorkville
- Saturday, April 16, 10:30-11:30 am @ Immanuel

LOOKING AHEAD



The mighty one,
God the LORD,
speaks and summons
the earth
from the rising of the sun
to its setting.
Psalm 50:1

2011 Offering Pledge Cards

Committment Sunday is March 6th. If you need a pledge card, you can call the church or pick one before you go into the sanctuary.

Kendall County Food Pantry

WELCA is collecting food for the food pantry on the last Sunday of each month. Donations for the food pantry will be collected on **Sunday, March 27th**. Please bring donations of condiments (ketchup, mustard, salt, pepper, etc.). Of course any item is welcomed.

For more information, contact Brenda Corrigan at 630-553-1525. Thanks for helping!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans seeking Financial Planners

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is actively seeking financial planners. Anyone interested please contact Pastor Joe directly.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be **June 20 – 25 2011, from 9 am to 12 noon**. There will be classes for any child age 3 through 6th grade. The theme this year is Shake It Up Café: Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe. We are looking for anyone who would be willing to help us out in any way. We need snack leaders, craft leaders, recreation leaders, lesson leaders, music leaders, assembly leaders, group leaders and helpers. We also will need the congregation to keep the students, helpers and leaders in your prayers. If you can help us out this summer in any way be it one day or all five days please contact Laura Devick at 815-695-5432. Watch for further announcements. *If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17a.*

Lenten Breakfast

Ladies - Mark your calendars for the Lenten Breakfast on **Saturday, April 9th at 8:30 a.m.** at the Whitetail Ridge Clubhouse, off of Route 126, Yorkville. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and enjoy fellowship with one another, a delicious buffet breakfast, hear an inspiring message from Pastor Chu and partake in Holy Communion. Cost is \$12.00. For more information, contact Bev Borneman at 630-553-5923.

Wheelchair and Walker

Immanuel has received a donation of a walker and a wheelchair. If you need the use of one of these on a Sunday, they are in the church office. If you need one for an extended amount of time, please check it out through Cindy.

Picture Time – Mark Your Calendars!!!

Please mark your calendar from **June 23rd through June 25th** for picture taking time. The photos are for updating our online directory, possibly publishing a new member photo directory, and of course pictures for your family and friends. More information will be shared in the May and June newsletters.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

630 553 5368

March 2011

www.immanuelYorkville.org

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2 6:30 pm MCP meeting	3	4	5
6 9 & 10:30 am Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School Noon— Confirmation Class	7 6:30 pm Altar Guild	8 1:30 pm Ruth Circle 7 pm Council Meeting	9 9 am Busy Hands 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service	10 6:30 pm Servant Hearts Circle	11	12
13 9 & 10:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday Sch 11:45 am Luther League	14	15	16 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 pm 1st Forum MCP	17 6:30 pm Servant Hearts Circle **Newsletter items turned into office	18 9:30 am 1st Forum of MSP @ Panera Bread, Yorkville	19 10:30 am 1st Forum of MSP in Heritage Hall
20 9 & 10:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun. Sch. Noon—Confirmation class	21	22	23 9 am Busy Hands 6 pm Soup Supper 7 pm Lenten Devotions	24	25	26
27 9 & 10:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun. Sch. Kendall County Food Pantry Donation	28	29	30 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 pm 2nd Forum MCP			

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Upcoming Events

Mission Forums

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