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IMMANUEL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 20 MONTEREY CIRCLE, LAKEWOOD NJ 08707

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"The Lantern" November 2019

Greetings from your Pastor...

STANDING WITH THE SAINTS

November begins with All Saints Sunday a time more than any other to think about those who have gone before us in the faith. Lutherans are sometimes mistakenly thought not to believe in saints. True we do not pray for them to intercede for us, since we have one intercessor Jesus Christ, but saints play an important part as an example for our lives.

November is also traditionally time for the annual stewardship appeal. Since stewardship is stewardship of all of life, not just the pocketbook, the examination of the lives of saints can be a powerful method for observing whole life stewardship.

Traditional stewardship appeals, letters, pledge cards etc. in a congregation like Immanuel seem to be wasted energy. One reason we remember the saints is precisely because they were such great stewards of God's grace among us. The congregation in which we worship was built because of the sacrificial giving of those who have gone before. We gratefully have and continue to receive the blessings God and his saints have provided. Let the stewardship program this year simply be the reminder of what we have received and the challenge we have to conserve, protect and defend it by our faithful stewardship.

Pastor









Celebrations November

Birthdays:

5th ~ Judy Nolan

7th ~ Robert Camp

8th ~ Jane McKinley

10th ~ David Novatin

11th ~ Michael Santoli

17th ~ Janet Price

23rd ~ Tyler Brown

27th ~ Stephanie Palzer

28th ~ Dick Stahlhut

Anniversaries:

8th ~ Margaret & John Coppola 8th ~ Jim & Lisa McLain

Servers for November

Lay Asst.:

3rd: Roberta McGilvery ~ 10th: Terry Stahlhut ~ 17th: Kris Calabro ~

24th: Todd Engle

Lector:

3rd: Roberta McGilvery ~ 10th: Sharon Rollier ~ 17th: Kris Calabro ~

24th: Todd Engle

Ushers:

3rd: Lana Hyer & Eva LaBrozzi ~ 10th: Carole Hepp & Sharon Rollier ~ 17th: Millie Martin & Roberta McGilvery ~ 24th: Scott & Kim Brown

Altar Guild: Donna Palzer

The Faith Exploration Group

The next meeting is scheduled for

November 18th at 10:00 AM

Up coming events for November:

3rd: "All Saints Sunday"

24th: "Christ the King" Sunday

28th: Happy Thanksgiving

30th: "Hanging of the Greens ~ Saturday afternoon at

3:30 PM before the 5:30 PM Service





Up coming events for December:

1st: 1st Sunday in Advent

8th: 2nd Sunday in Advent

15th: 3rd Sunday in Advent

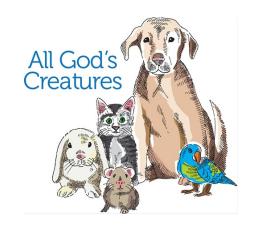
22nd: 4th Sunday in Advent

24th: Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 PM & 9:00 PM

25th: Christmas Day ~ Merry Christmas Everyone!

Blessing of the Animals!













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Blessing of the Animals! ~ Part 2











Still Don't Want to Go to Church?

Do you like mysteries? There are some really interesting ones a church. When children are baptized, they become children of God, receive many gifts of blessings from the Holy Spirit, and are promised eternal life. That's a mystery!

Another mystery at church is God. How can God be three equal persons: the father who created us, His son, Jesus, who came to Earth and sacrificed his life for us, and the Holy Spirit who lives with us today? How can one God be all three? It's a mystery!

When people go up to the Communion rail, they go to receive a piece of bread and sip of wine. The minister proclaims them to be the body and blood of Jesus. How can that be? It's a mystery! When Jesus had his last meal with his Apostles (his chosen friends) before his death, Jesus told them that they and the people after them should always do that in remembrance of him. So that's what we do.

When we receive Holy Communion on Sundays with our church family, the Holy Spirit comes knocking at the door to our hearts. Sometimes we let her in – and sometimes we don't. We need to be ready, the way we get ready for company at home, cleaning and preparing to receive them. In confession our problems that we may not have solved very well, our sins, are forgiven by God. Whew! That's a load off! That sweeps our souls clean!

Then we get our minds ready. If we are thinking of our loved ones wo have passed on, of Jesus and the life he lived for us, and the many gifts of the Spirit, (I look forward to the feeling of joy) then we're ready.

However, if we are thinking about work, where we're going for lunch, or the weird shirt the guy in the last pew is wearing, we are not ready to open the doors to our hearts. Then we miss all the wonderful gifts of the Spirit and our connection with Jesus.

So many mysteries! So many opportunities!

Mysteries and opportunities are good reasons to go to church.

Jane McKinley

The Faith Exploration Group

The next meeting is scheduled for

November 18th at 10:00 AM



THE 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

They will be on the table in the Narthex beginning

November 10th. Please stop by to pick yours up.

They are in numerical order.







Order Form for Poinsettias

6" pot @ \$8.00

Name:						
Your phone #	# of Plants		Amour	Amount:		
	(please indicate by circling one)	will / will	not be taking hom	ne		
In Memory of: _						
In Memory of: _						
In Memory of: _						
In Memory of: _						
In Honor of:						
In Honor of:						
In Honor of:						
In Honor of:						
	(more than	one name can fit	on each line)			

Please make checks payable to "Immanuel Lutheran Church." Give orders to Church office no later than <u>December 1, 2019</u>

Place your order early to assure your loved ones name/s are in the bulletin. THANK YOU!



Food Pantry

UPDATE:

The food pantry continues to remain busy. For September we helped 74 families which totaled 306 people. There are 42 families signed up to receive turkeys for Thanksgiving. Hopefully we will be able to add fixings for each family. We are currently in need of tuna, cereal, oatmeal, and paper shopping bags. For Christmas we will be selling Hallmark gift wrap for \$1.00 as a fund raiser.

Thank you for all of your continued support Scott



Pantry Hours & Dates

November 14th, 21st & 30th

Turkey pick-up on 23rd

10:00 AM to 12 noon

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TO:				