

PARISH WEEK
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
JULY 2010

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuelutheran.org

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL

July 4

Isaiah 66:10-14
Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18
Luke 10:1-20

July 11

Leviticus (18:1-5) 19:9-18
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 18

Genesis 18:1-10a (10b-14)
Colossians 1:21-29
Luke 10:38-42

July 25

Genesis 18:(17-19) 20-33
Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

*God promises peace, comfort, and rejoicing for His people.
Peace and mercy to God's people.
Jesus sends out disciples to announce peace.*

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*God gives commands to the Israelites on how to love their neighbor.
Paul prays for these new Christians.
The Good Samaritan*

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

*The Lord promises a son for Abraham and Sarah.
God has reconciled His former rebels.
Mary chooses to listen to Jesus.*

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

*Abraham pleads for the righteous in Sodom.
Remain rooted in Christ.
Jesus teaches about prayer.*

*While Pastor Minetree is on vacation June 28th through July 11th, pastoral care and emergencies will be handled by Pastor Schwab. He can be reached at 410-828-0473.

Ministry Notes

SPECIAL WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JULY

While Pastor Minetree is on vacation during the first two Sundays of July, the following arrangements have been made for our services on those dates. On Sunday, July 4, we will welcome the Rev. Lloyd Gaines as our guest pastor. Rev. Gaines serves on the Southeastern District staff as the Executive for Black, Urban, and Ethnic Ministry. Be sure to be present as Pastor Gaines will share a very interesting message with us that day.

Then, on Sunday, July 11, Immanuel will conduct a "lay led" service without Holy Communion. Mark Smith, Steve Heemann, and perhaps other lay assistants will participate and lead the worship service that day with a service with an emphasis on prayers and readings.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL AT IMMANUEL

This report is intended to provide an insight as to our progress with the Spiritual Renewal emphasis and some information on the work of the Spiritual Renewal Leadership Team while more specific initiatives continue to be developed. This report will consist of:

- Part 1: A review of the five renewal recommendations
- Part 2: A chronological listing of where we have come since the beginning of the process
- Part 3: A synopsis of some of the meeting notes from the first four meetings and a coaching session of the Spiritual Renewal Leadership Team

Part 1 - RENEWAL RECOMMENDATIONS

These are the five recommendations recommended by the Renewal Visitation Team and that were subsequently adopted by the Voters Assembly:

I. Because spiritual renewal requires the leadership of the pastor and full support of the congregational leadership, we recommend that there be work with pastor, staff, and leadership to eliminate current areas of dysfunction and create a climate and spirit where all leadership is team leadership.

II. Spiritual renewal of the congregation can only occur when individual members are involved in spiritual renewal, therefore it is critical to address the issue of a deficiency in opportunities for spiritual development both available to and utilized by members of the congregation.

III. For spiritual renewal to take place, members of the congregation must understand the mission of the congregation and direct their energy and passion to that end, therefore we recommend that the congregation set, affirm, and renew the mission of the congregation.

IV. Because worship is central to the spiritual life of the congregation and music is an essential element of worship, we recommend that there be a plan developed for music and worship leadership beyond the tenure of the current Minister of Music.

V. Because there can be obstacles to developing spiritual renewal and we sense that there may be certain obstacles, we recommend that building related issues that are limiting ministry at Immanuel be addressed.

Part 2 – “WHERE WE HAVE COME”

- January 2009 – Conceptual meeting to discuss possibility of becoming a renewal pilot congregation with several leaders and Pastor Minetree
- March 2009 – Presentation by Rev. Seaman to and approval by the Church Council
- May 2009 – Presentation by Rev. Seaman to and approval by the congregation for first phase.
- Summer 2009 – Special Bible Study emphasis
- September 12, 2009 – Spiritual Retreat led by Rev. Art Umbach held at Augsburg
- February 19-21, 2010 – Rev Seaman and Rev. Fangmeier on site for Discovery Weekend. Focus groups held involving Pastor and his wife, Leadership, and members of the congregation. Preliminary results presented by Rev Seaman at a 2/21/10 Town Meeting.
- March 14, 2010 – Presentation of Renewal Plan by Rev. Seaman to ILC Town Meeting
- March 21, 2010 – Voter’s Assembly approves moving forward with Spiritual Renewal via a role call vote.
- April 18, 2010 – Special Renewal Covenant Signing Service
- Appointment of Renewal Leadership Team: Steve Heemann, Chairperson, Mark Smith, Christy St. Clair, Denise Adah, Pastor Minetree, Albert Lietzau, Mary Ruble
- April 24, 2010 – Coaching session by Pastor Fangmeier with Pastor Minetree and Mark Smith
- April 25, 2010 – Initial Directional and first Coaching Meeting of the Renewal Leadership Team with Rev. Tim Fangmeier (three hour duration)
- May 3, 2010 – Renewal Leadership Team meets the second time.
- May 18, 2010 – Pastor’s Coaching Session with Rev. Fangmeier
- May 24, 2010 – Pastor’s first participation in the On-Line Pastor’s Learning Community
- May 24, 2010 – Renewal Leadership Team meets for the third time.
- June 10, 2010 – Renewal Leadership Team meets via telephone with Pastor Fangmeier for second coaching session.
- June 21, 2010 – Renewal Leadership Team meets for the fourth time
- Continued opportunity for anyone that has not signed the Covenant to add their names to the 76 signers. A copy of the signed covenant is available at this meeting and upon request.

PART 3 – SYNOPSIS OF MEETING NOTES OF THE RENEWAL LEADERSHIP TEAMS.

In order to provide you with the most updated information on the activities of the team a summary of the notes from past meetings will be presented.

Rev. Fangmeier had noted dysfunction in three areas:

- 1) Church Council does not work together at a high level.
- 2) Relationship between Pastor and President not as strong as needed.

3) Climate of congregation and negative influence of certain key individuals.

Establishing a climate of teamwork is critical. Need additional teamwork with Council and Pastor, build a team and use different skills of the team as each member is blessed. All Ministry is Team Ministry!

The Team concept assumes everyone can take a small unit (committee) and build a team. That structure assumes a leadership style that may not be possible. Pastor Minetree will be looked upon to set the tone and should be looked to as an integral part of the team, not outside of it. Discussion – How Pastor perceives his leadership style? How others will draw him in? Is he in a reactive mode? We may want to try different approaches. Pastor needs to be well grounded and well supported. What will the role of the pastor be in regard to leadership of the congregation? This has not been spelled out. Pastor, with counsel from Rev. Fangmeier will develop and refine his leadership style. Not authoritative, but with authority.

Pastor Fangmeier has worked with the pastor and officers as a coach. This process is thought of as helpful. The Pastor and the President are now working in a partnership and communicating in person represents positive momentum. They now speak with one voice.

There has been discussion of the “woeful” bible study attendance. Very few of Immanuel members are regularly in the Word through Bible Study. Leaders need to attend and to lead by example. Options other than 9 AM on Sunday need to be present. There was some discussion of potential changes to the service style. Bible study type of instruction from the pulpit. A more abbreviated liturgy to provide time for this. Continuous line communion will be recommended to be utilized at some services. We will want to be sure to start on time and to conclude the service by 11:15 at the latest. We will be moving forward with the purchase of bibles for the pews. Members encouraged to bring their bibles. This is somewhat radical, but was encouraged. There may be negative reaction and some conflict.

POOR ATTENDANCE AT BIBLE STUDY IS A SYMPTOM OF A BIGGER ISSUE. Church for many folks at ILC has become only a Sunday morning thing. We do worship and not much else. How do we want the congregation to function? Perhaps we do not know ourselves? Are we training people? There was a recommendation for spiritual formation and role type of training for council and church officers. What is each person’s role? Many years ago, there was a council retreat. We will strongly consider getting back to this. The Church Council is to set the vision and goals as the congregation’s BOD.

Mission and Vision, the congregation is not on this page. Need to change this. Most of what we do is maintenance and inwardly focused. Pastor Fangmeier is willing to come in to train. We are a maintenance driven organization without a working infrastructure. Our past priority has been to take care of any conflict and keep peace. That will not always be possible going down the road as change puts people out of their comfort zone.

Pastor Fangmeier suggested to perhaps to include the Church Council also in next coaching session? How might he help to build a Team with Council. The President and the Pastor should be the ones to train lay leaders. How are we going to function? Council sets the vision and President and Pastor lead its implementation. Rev. Fangmeier suggests he will assist with structure and coaching and we would do the training. It was noted that it takes people 5-7 years to break away from old habits. Pastor and President to set the agenda. “Here is where we are headed. Come with us?” “No secrets, no surprises, no subterfuge.”

The changes that lie ahead will require a high level of communication. Pastor Fangmeier will coach us to function better as a congregation and to teach us to be more authentic.

Who will Pastor train? Pastor will work in spiritual formation, prayer development. What’s the process? Pastor and coach to train leaders so that they will train others. This will take some time. Pastor Fangmeier suggested that we look to the SED Spiritual Life Team for help and suggested some resources.

There was discussion of concept that we are actually planting a mission church within a church. Recommendation to share this thought with Council.

Areas where we will focus:

- Moving to a mission structure.
- Determine training methods to be used.
- Streamline the system – what structure (committees, ministry teams, or other)? Need to make it easier for people to become involved AND also be accountable. We can not function as a group of free agents coming and going and participating sporadically.
- Permission giving rather than controlling
- Do an assessment?
- Look at constitution?
- Manage disagreement and promote Team building
- Ownership of process by leadership and congregation

- What specific tactics we will use?
- Need to communicate that we are taking steps here and that things are coming together. Convey that we feel progress and demonstrate that progress to congregation.

The Building Issue (Recommendation #5) and timeline appears dependent on money. The consensus was to put together a fact finding committee to look at the needs within our building. What can and should be done? This is data gathering. Have this information in place and ready to go.

Discussion – We are functioning with limited people and money resources!

We would like for the congregation to know that:

- The Leadership Team is meeting twice a month
- Coaching with Rev. Fangmeier is taking place
- We are looking for someone to assist with prayer cards
- Some changes in the worship service are being suggested to accommodate a slightly different sermon style of teaching the Bible.

Immediate next steps:

- Introduce proposal to use expository preaching style for the worship service with other changes to service content. This was approved by the Council at the June 16 meeting.
- Prayer cards will be distributed and mailed out each week to those not attending so that all of us will be praying for the same thing each week. This will begin shortly.
- Begin to work on resetting the vision and communicating thoughts such as these:
“Enabled and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, we now go into the mission field of where we live, work, and play to share the Gospel of Christ by telling our story.”

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

The Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class is studying Paul’s 1st Letter to the Corinthians. Class meets at 9am. Bring your favorite Bible or you may use one of the church’s. Adult Sunday School will continue throughout June, July, and August.

LMS CARAVAN OF COMPASSION

During four consecutive Thursdays during July, the Lutheran Mission Society will be distributing 100,000 loaves of bread at 16 different sites. Immanuel Lutheran Church has been selected as one of the sites to give away more than 5,000 loaves on July 15 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. This is a wonderful outreach opportunity for our church to demonstrate that ILC truly cares about our community. In order for this activity to be successful we need 20 volunteers on July 15 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. A timeline of duties is listed below. If you can help, please contact Fay Husted at 410-321-1754 or fahusted@yahoo.com.

Timeline:

1 hour before truck arrives: Set up crowd control measures as needed. **2 volunteers** take position in front of building to guide early arrivers to line up. **1 volunteer** gives each person receiving a bag *a ticket which is turned in upon receipt of bread*. Set up tables near where the truck will park. Provide a trash receptacle for use inside the distribution site area to deposit tickets.

30 minutes before truck arrives: Volunteers arrive. LMS staff person will meet them, explain procedures and distribute lanyards with “Volunteer” tags to identification. It would be helpful for volunteers to wear shirts of similar color (such as white shirts with collars) as well as the volunteer lanyards/tags.

10-15 minutes before truck arrives: Volunteers move to their positions

Once truck arrives:

1. 3-4 volunteers assist LMS staff with getting the open boxes to the location where bags can be filled. Depending on parking/distribution locations, a handcart will be used. (LMS provided)
2. 8 volunteers to fill bags (with bread and brochures) and distribute; dividing between filling and distributing as necessary for maximum distribution flow
3. 1-2 volunteers to flatten boxes as they are emptied to keep area manageable. Boxes will be left at site or returned to LMS if necessary.
4. 2 volunteers stick with crowd control.

Near the end of the supply or allotted time, a decision will be made on cutting off the line, giving out less per person, or leaving a quantity of bread at the site for continued distribution.

Final site clean-up to be handled by the host site volunteers.

NEXT COMPASSION CENTER VOLUNTEER MEETING – SATURDAY, JULY 10 AT 9 AM

The next meeting of the Compassion Center volunteers will be on Saturday, July 10 at 9 AM. The primary purpose of this meeting will be organize the group of volunteers that will participate in the bread distribution that is scheduled for the following Thursday (July 15) through the Lutheran Mission Society Caravan of Compassion. Other planning for the future will also be discussed, time permitting. If you are volunteering for the Caravan of Compassion on July 15, are a current Compassion Center volunteer, or are interested in learning more about becoming a Compassion Center volunteer, please join us for this meeting.

ALTAR AND NARTHEX FLOWERS

When you want Altar or Narthex flowers, the procedure is to call Laura Pickering at (410) 296-2075. Please do not write on the calendar! Laura 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 of the flowers is \$15 per vase for the Altar and \$20 for the Narthex. Pay by cash or check (made payable to the "Altar Guild") and give to Laura Pickering in person or mail checks via the postal service.

Sundays available for flower donations:

Altar: July 11th, 18th, 25th Narthex: July 18th

SCOUTMASTER NEEDED

Immanuel's Boy Scout Troop 125 has an opportunity to restart. 5 WEBLOS from the St. Matthew Pack will be moving up to scouts. We need interested men and women who would be willing to train to be scoutmaster and have the weekends available for camping trips with the troop. Pastor Minetree is a trained scoutmaster and will be assisting with the troop but cannot make the weekend camping trips. Please see Pastor to participate as a scoutmaster, assistant scoutmaster, or troop committee member. The troop will recruit from our neighborhood and boys from within Immanuel.



SUNDAY SCHOOL meets every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. The adult class meets in the Fellowship Hall. The Youth Class, ages 5th grade and up meets in the Youth Room. The younger Preschool – Elementary class meets in the room nearest the restrooms, the former 1st grade classroom. The Church Nursery is open during this time also for the very youngest children. Christian Education is for all ages. The Word of God is open everyday, so let us gather together to learn more on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Come and visit any of the classes at any time. Come and discover what you didn't know, or forgot about. Come and share your insight and your knowledge. All groups appreciate support, prayer, and your talents. Make this hour on Sundays part of your regular week. Hope to see you on Sunday!

CHURCH NURSERY is seeking volunteers to serve one Sunday per month, or less often, so that more of our membership may attend church and bring our little ones. Please contact Emalee Smith or sign up on the Nursery Room calendar so that our youngest worshippers feel welcome.

TAKE A PEEK AT THE BOUTIQUE

Take time to visit the "Born Again Boutique" located outside the Fellowship Hall. Laura Higgins and Joan Goeller both have keys, and will provide sales assistance during the week. If you would like to make a purchase or donation, please contact either Laura or Joan. Proceeds from this effort fund the renovations for the kitchen including a new exhaust fan and electric dishwashers.

Community Notes

A Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Ordination of Pastor Elliott M. Robertson into the holy ministry will be held at Martini Lutheran Church, 100 W. Henrietta Street, Baltimore, MD 21230 on Sunday, July 18th at 11:00 a.m. The Rev. J. Thomas Foelber of St. James Lutheran Church will be preaching the Word, and Pastor Charles L. Wildner, Jr. of St. Thomas Lutheran Church will be the Liturgist. After worship there will be a reception. Pastor Robertson has requested that each person coming to Sunday worship to celebrate please bring a can of meat-based food (tuna, beef stew, soup, etc.) preferably in a zip-top can, for use in their food pantry outreach.

The 2010 Tending The Flame Conference: July 30 – August 1

A family-friendly, mission-focused weekend filled with speakers, music, and people like you who are seeking to grow in the task of sharing Jesus. More than 400 adults, youth, and children will gather in Richmond, VA on July 30 –

August 1 under the theme of Living Letters. Information, registration and regular updates are available at <http://se.lcms.org/top-menu/news.php?id=50>. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Koger Center, Richmond, VA. The cost of registration is \$90.00

Travel and Learn with Concordia College, Bronxville, NY in the footsteps of St. Paul by visiting Greece and Turkey on October 19-29, 2010. For more information call Rev. Greg Dwyer at 914-337-9300 X2198.

Baltimore Lutheran School News

It's Enrollment Time at Baltimore Lutheran

There are so many great things happening at Baltimore Lutheran! Excellence in academics, Athletics, Drama, Music, Clubs, and Community in Christ. "Enrich the mind. Empower the spirit. Embrace the opportunity!" If you or someone you know is looking for an excellent Christian college-preparatory education for a student in grades 6-12, you won't want to miss out. For more information, please contact Mrs. Ruth Heilman, Director of Admissions, at 410-825-2323, extension 272, or check us out on the web at www.baltimorelutheran.org.

20th Annual BLS Benefit Golf Tournament

This year the 20th Annual BLS Benefit Golf Tournament will be held at the Country Club of Maryland on Monday, August 16, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. The tournament fee is \$125 per golfer/\$500.00 per foursome. The success of this tournament fundraiser hinges on the support of our Association Church partners, alumni, parents and local businesses in the area. For 2010, we are offering our Association Churches the opportunity to use this event as one of their "Congregational Activities" in support of Baltimore Lutheran School. Please contact Lois Natarjan or Tracy Gingher at 410-825-2323, ext. 273 for any questions.

Birthdays:

2	Carolyn Henn	23	Delores Harvey
3	Keira Huhra	24	Ruth Dietrich
9	Phyllis Campbell	25	Ray Spitznas
10	Jacob Pfitzinger	26	Coreathia Davis
11	Martha Falk	27	Stacey Brown, Jr.
12	Olivia Elbers		Gerhard Ehlerding
	Dorothy Perry		Jean Heemann
15	Gabriel Tenabe	28	Amanda Thomas
16	Amy Smith	30	Virginia Metzger
18	Walter Schoenfuhs	31	Jack Dennis
19	Charles Miller		

Anniversaries:

1	Ted & Carolyn Henn
	Jerry & Mary Ruble
4	Dion & Veronica Hylton
11	Jefferson & Christine Will

CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	July 4	July 11	July 18	July 25	August 1
Altar Guild	Jean Heemann	Jean Heemann	Jane Derry/ Grace Palmer/ Lavette Blue	Jane Derry/ Grace Palmer/ Lavette Blue	Mary Ruble
Lay Reader	Carolyn Henn	Mark Smith	Ted Henn	Gerhard Ehlerding	Mary Ruble
Liturgist	Ted Henn	<i>No Communion</i>	Rick McDonnell	Ted Henn	Rick McDonnell
Communion Assistant	Sylvanus Ibenana	<i>No Communion</i>	Warren Blue	Carl Harvey	Harvey Diggs

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion	5	6	7 6 pm LRIA Board of Directors	8	9	10 9 am Compassion Center Volunteer Meeting 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
11 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship	12 Pastor returns 7 pm Renewal	13	14	15 10-11 am Caravan of Compassion	16	17 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
18 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	19	20 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting	21 7 pm Church Council	22	23	24 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center LRIA Movie Night
25 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	26 Parish Week Articles Due	27	28	29 6 pm Spiritual Formation	30	31 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	2	3	4 6 pm LRIA Board of Directors	5	6	7 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
8 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	9	10	11	12	13	14 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
15 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	16	17 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting	18 7 pm Church Council	19	20	21 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
22 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Bible Study & Sunday School 10 am Worship & Communion 4:30 pm Youth Group	23 Parish Week Articles Due	24	25	26	27	28 10 am-2 pm Compassion Center
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