

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

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Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Honor God, by sharing His love, living in Christ, and serving our community.



The world will never be the dwelling place of peace until peace has found a home in the heart of each and every man.

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Joy To The World. . .

The liturgical season of Christmas lasts until January 6th, but my sense is that your thoughts have already turned away from the joy of the season. One of the memorable passages we hear in in the Christmas story is from Luke 2:19 where he tells us, "But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." We like to "ponder" on and relive the good feelings and the events up to and including Christmas. But now that Christmas is over, our thoughts too quickly turn away from Christmas and to more secular things. What will the coming year be like? What are the "experts" predicting for 2022? Will the pandemic finally be over? And of course, tax season is approaching and we begin thinking about gathering all the necessary documentation.

It happens every year. Christmas trees are thrown out on December 26th. Sooner, rather than later, the spiritually charged seasons of Advent and Christmas fade, the warmth and security of Christmas Eve recedes into the background and the Christmas message is replaced by the cold reality of living in the secular world once again.

But these are all perceptions, changes in how we think. The world wants us to forget about the Christmas message and refocus on the broken and empty things of the world. But that doesn't need to happen. We need to remember that the Holy Spirit, placed in us at our baptism is still in us. That Spirit lives in our hearts throughout the year.

This month we begin the Season of Epiphany, one of the oldest seasons of the Christian calendar. It is the season when we celebrate the manifestation of Jesus, the Light of the World, into the darkness of the world. Epiphany emphasizes the beginning of Jesus' ministry, his first miracle, his proclamation that he is the promised Messiah, his teaching and healing of the sick and possessed.

The reality is, as you ponder the first few weeks of the New Year, we need to keep in mind the reason for Christ's coming in the first place. He created us. He became flesh and dwelt among us. He revealed His glory. He made us right with our heavenly Father and gives us grace upon grace. Because of all that, you can continue to sing, 'Joy to the World, the Lord is come!' confident that he will continue to be with you each day of the coming year.



Pastor Larry Oliver

Scripture Readings For January

Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
	Jan. 2	Second S. a. Christmas	1 Kings 3:4-15	Psalms 119: 97-104	Eph. 1:3-14	Luke 2:40-52
Epiphany	Jan. 6	The Epiphany of Our Lord	Is. 60:1-6	Psalms 72: 1-11 (12-15)	Eph. 3:1-12	Matt. 2:1-12
	Jan. 9	The Baptism of Our Lord / First S. a. the Epiphany	Is. 43:1-7	Psalms 29	Rom. 6:1-11	Luke 3:15-22
	Jan. 16	Second S. a. the Epiphany	Is. 62:1-5	Psalms 128	1 Cor. 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
	Jan. 23	Third S. a. the Epiphany	Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalms 19:(1-6) 7-14	1 Cor. 12:12-31a	Luke 4:16-30
	Jan. 30	Fourth S. a. the Epiphany	Jer. 1:4-10 (17-19)	Psalms 71:1-6 (7-11)	1 Cor. 12:31b-13:13	Luke 4:31-44

January - 2022 Schedule

Dates	Elder	Greeter	Reader	Server	Altar Guild	Counting Team
Jan 2		Gary &	Jim Marshall	None		
Jan 9		Jim & Nita Marshall	Debbie Graham	None		
Jan 16		Roy Fender	Ann Oliver	None		
Jan 23		Ralph & Debbie Graham	Karen Bishopink	None		
Jan 30		Linda Anderson	Caryl Anderson			

**Thank you for serving your church
If you cannot serve, please find someone to take your place.
Please leave a note for the secretary.**

January Birthdays



Velma Bariletti..... 1/9
 Richard Grill..... 1/14
 Tim Waldron..... 1/14
 Jim Marshall 1/22
 Dolores Grinden 1/28

**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**



January Anniversaries

Marv & Fran Jacob..... 1/1/1954
 Dennis & Karen Hewitt..... 1/11/1985

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you for your involvement in this year's Operation Christmas Child project. With everyone's help we were able to fill 28 boxes this year! That is way beyond my expectations.

I can't say enough to thank you for everyone who helped. I believe that even though we do not have very many children in our weekly services, we can still spread the gospel to all the children of the world thru this program from Samaritan's Purse. I have read several stories of children, now adults, who have received these boxes and it is truly remarkable how the Holy Spirit works on their lives.

One child remembered he got a package of underwear in just his size. His family was too poor to buy him any and there it was just for him exactly what he needed and wanted. Another child reported that she got three toothbrushes in her box. She had



2 other siblings in her family and she gave them the extras so no one would be without. It's hard to imagine being so poor that you have nothing of your own and all of a sudden, thru these boxes, you know that someone in the world cares. They all state that the boxes were life changing to them. There are many, many other stories that they reported and I know I can't list them all. If you are interested you can go the Samaritan's Purse website and read some for yourself. I know it will help you understand the difference you made in their lives.

Included in the each box we sent, I added a Christmas card. The sentiment went like this: "To My Christian Friend, This box was lovingly packed for you from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Albany, Oregon USA. Our goal is that you will come to know Jesus and how much He loves you. We will keep you in our prayers." I wanted them to know a whole church was thinking about them. Please continue to pray for the children that receive these boxes.

Patti Grill



A Message Regarding Homeless Outreach

The Homeless Outreach team wants to wish you all a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR. We hope it will be your best year ever. We want to thank you all for your generous donations and quality clothing. We sold over \$100.00 at the resale store and they are very picky about what they accept. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.



The homeless outreach Team

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Each month there will be a series of trivia questions related to Biblical references. It is up to you to try and find the answers before looking for them elsewhere in the newsletter.

- 1) Where was Jesus when he taught two people how the prophets had predicted his death?
- 2) Who, using John as a scribe, wrote to the seven churches in Asia?
- 3) What form did the Holy Spirit assume at Jesus' baptism?
- 4) According to James, what cannot be tamed even though all birds can be tamed?
- 5) What king had 12,000 cavalry horses?
- 6) Which book mentions the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley?

Good Luck, Happy Bible Studying!



NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
 The brand new year ahead.
 Help me live the way I should
 As each new day I tread.
 Give me gentle wisdom
 That I might help a friend,
 Give me strength and courage
 So a shoulder I might lend.
 The year ahead is empty,
 Help me fill it with good things
 Each new day filled with joy
 And happiness it brings.
 Amen.

Technically, Moses



**was the first person
 with a tablet
 downloading data
 from the cloud**

Bible Trivia Answers

- 1) The road to Emmaus (Luke 24:25-27)
- 2) Jesus (Revelation 1-3)
- 3) A dove (Mark 1:10)
- 4) The tongue (James 3:7)
- 5) Solomon (1 Kings 4:26)
- 6) Song of Solomon (2:1)



**A pastor giving a children's sermon on vestments asked:
 "Why do you think I wear this collar?"**

**One kid answered:
 "Because it kills ticks and fleas up to 30 days?"**

Immanuel Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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We're on the web!

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